

Abu Nidal planned attack in Germany

BERLIN (AP) — Federal prosecutors said Friday that they had strong indications the Abu Nidal organisation had planned and prepared bomb attacks on Jewish and Israeli centres in Germany. Seven men described by authorities as "Arab" were arrested in Berlin on Tuesday during a search but released the following day. "Our leads could not be substantiated," said Rolf Hannich, a spokesman for the federal prosecutor's office in Karlsruhe. He would not say who tipped off German authorities or provide the arrested men's nationalities. "Because they were released, police will not give out the men's names," said Mr. Hannich. German police posted armoured personnel carriers at Jewish and Israeli centres in Berlin and Bonn early last week after what police said was a specific warning of an attack around the Yom Kippur holiday.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية "الرأي"

Guerrillas blast Israeli outpost

TYRE (AP) — Guerrillas attacked an Israeli outpost in South Lebanon with mortar fire and rocket-propelled grenades Friday, provoking artillery retaliation, security sources said. They said no casualties were reported from the daybreak attack by Hizbollah guerrillas on the Israeli outpost at Rachaf in the western sector of an enclave Israel occupied as a "security zone" in South Lebanon. The sources, who requested anonymity, said there were no casualty reports from the retaliatory Israeli bombardment that targeted Kaifra, Yater and Hadatha. Hizbollah claimed responsibility for the attack on Rachaf in a communique released in Lebanon's southernmost port city of Tyre. Hizbollah, which opposes the U.S.-sponsored Arab-Israeli negotiations for a Middle East peace, has been spearheading a guerrilla war to dislodge Israel from the occupied enclave. The strip covers 1,100 square kilometres between the Mediterranean coast and the foothills of Mount Hermon.

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No new tax — Gammoh

Reports of additional levies illogical, finance minister says
Goals include transparency and improved investment climate

By P.V. Vivekanand
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Finance Minister Sami Gammoh on Friday strongly rejected reports of moves to introduce additional taxes and stated that the government's objective was to reduce the tax burden on the average wage-earner. The minister's statement came against the backdrop of a hue and cry in the country over suggestions that the government was considering a series of additional taxes. An announcement by Mr. Gammoh in late August that capital gains might no longer enjoy tax exemption sent the Jordanian Financial Market to a spin over fears that profits earned in the bourse and equity gains by companies could no longer be eligible for tax exemption. Share prices plunged by more than six per cent in the last two weeks of September and brokers said the trend was likely to continue unless

the government made its intentions clear.

"The government has no plan whatsoever to raise taxes of any kind," Mr. Gammoh told the Jordan Times. "On the contrary, we are seeking ways and means to reduce the burden on taxpayers by a revamping of the entire taxation system," he said.

"There is no need for anyone to feel threatened by the imaginary prospect of additional taxes," said the minister. "There is not going to be any increase in taxes, period."

"Yes, there is a need for a restructuring of the taxation structure of the country and we are working on it, but the idea is totally different than suggested by some of the so-called experts and investors which created the panic in the market," he added.

The minister confirmed that additional taxes were indeed part of proposals drawn up by a committee of technical

experts to the prime minister. "But there are only proposals and we have not even closely studied them let alone taking a decision to adopt them," Mr. Gammoh said.

The finance minister said it was "ironic" that investors were only looking at the "negative" side of things. "The Income Tax Department has not even looked at the proposals yet, but we suddenly find people suggesting that new taxes will be in place in a matter of weeks."

"Only a few months ago we exempted all profits derived from exports, whether of commodities or services, from income tax," noted Mr. Gammoh. "How could anyone expect a government which offers 100 per cent exemption from income tax to exporters to increase taxes?"

The finance minister referred to the emphasis that the government has given to the role of the private sector in the five-year development

plan and noted that neither that plan nor the economic restructuring programme under implementation contains any provision for additional taxes.

"We are fully committed to the development plan and the economic restructuring programme and have no intention whatsoever of introducing any variations," he said. "Both the plan and programme are final, and approved, and there is no desire on the part of anyone to change anything in them to include additional taxes."

"We are trying to reduce the tax burden on individuals and widen the base of taxation," he emphasised. "Certain segments of the economy are not taxed at present but they could be brought into the taxation system only after we reach broad agreement with the sectors concerned."

The government has already derived the impression that the concerned sectors do not mind being taxed

"as long as the levy remains within reasonable limits and does not impose a burden on them," the finance minister said, adding: "Even at that it does not mean an automatic imposition of taxes on those sectors."

The very idea of floating the proposals in public was to "get the reaction of everyone and judge what is best and in everyone's interest while serving the national objective of economic growth and involving the private sector to that maximum extent possible," the minister said.

Mr. Gammoh complained that "some sectors" instead of taking the government initiative to air the issue in public as goodwill gesture aimed at assessing public reaction, "looked at the worst side of things and judged for themselves without a closer look that there is going to be additional taxes on the people."

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Golan settlers protest

OCCUPIED GOLAN HEIGHTS (Agencies) — 300 Jewish settlers of the Golan village El Rom went on strike Friday in protest at the Israeli government's readiness to cede land on the strategic Heights in return for

the 56 families voted to sit down their kibbutz or collective farm and spend the day with 12 other Golan settlers who began a hunger strike last Sunday at the neighbouring settlement on Golan, said their spokesman Yakov Assaf.

"We believe it is possible to make an arrangement with the Syrians without removing the settlement," he said. Rumours abound on the Golan that El Rom, whose residents are all members of the time Minister Yitzhak Mordechai's Labour Party, would be the first settlement to go under a deal with Damascus.

"Our settlement will be settled for 24 hours," Mr. Assaf said, adding that her forms of protest would flow unless the government backs down.

Mr. Rabin has offered a "marginal" Israeli withdrawal over three years to allow normalisation of ties with Syria. A final agreement on the extent of withdrawal from the Golan would be open to negotiation.

Israeli Chief of Staff Ehud Barak said Friday that Syria was "serious" about peace with Israel.

"The Syrians have decided to look seriously at the possibility of making a peace agreement with Israel," General Barak told Israeli radio.

"Damascus understands that such an agreement has a price. Syrian leaders have very high demands but they are very serious, thoughtful and realistic. They have been bitter enemies when we have fought against them and they will be the same during negotiations."

And Environment Minister Yossi Sarid told the Davar newspaper that there were no outstanding differences between the final line of Israel's withdrawal after the three-year interim period and the timetable for the withdrawal. In his comments, Gen. Barak said Israel will have to maintain its military might even after it signs peace treaties with its Arab neighbours.

Arab League backs peace talks, Palestinian claim to Jerusalem

CAIRO (Agencies) — Arab League foreign ministers voiced their backing for the Arab-Israeli peace process at the end of a two-day meeting in the Egyptian capital.

Resolutions adopted late Thursday expressed "support for the Arab parties' efforts to achieve a just and lasting peace in accordance with U.N. Security Council resolutions 242 and 338."

The Arab foreign ministers said Jerusalem city must be restored to Palestinian sovereignty as capital of an independent Palestinian state.

The Arab League, in a final statement after the meeting of foreign ministers and envoys of 22 countries, said:

"Based on the fact that holy Jerusalem is a Palestinian Arab city that has a sublime status to the Arab and Islamic worlds, the League Council stresses the extreme importance of Jerusalem and the need to restore its Arab and Palestinian sovereignty as the capital of the independent Palestinian state."

Jerusalem, it said, was "an integral part of the Arab and Palestinian land occupied (by Israel) in 1967."

Delegates said the future

of Jerusalem dominated the six-monthly regular meeting in Cairo.

A Jordanian-Israeli agreement, signed in Washington in July, recognised special religious rights for Jordan in the city.

The agreement said: "Israel respects the present special role of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan in Muslim shrines in Jerusalem... when negotiations on the permanent status take place, Israel will give priority to the Jordanian historic role in these shrines."

Israel, which "annexed" Jerusalem after seizing it in 1967, views the Holy City as its own "indivisible capital." Under the Israeli-Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) peace agreement the final status of Jerusalem is to be subject to negotiation, but not for at least two more years.

Jordanian Education Minister Abdul Raouf Al Rawabdeh told reporters the resolution adopted by the Arab League was unanimous.

The Arab League also adopted a resolution calling on Arab countries to "provide all possible aid to the

Rawabdeh returns

EDUCATION MINISTER Abdul Raouf Al Rawabdeh returned home Friday after chairing the Arab League Council's 102nd session in Cairo.

In an arrival statement, Mr. Rawabdeh said the council discussed several issues, including the Palestine question and the Arab-Israeli conflict. The council stressed that the Arab-Israeli peace process is held in accordance with the international legitimacy and the land-for-peace principle.

In its final communique, the council called for supporting the Palestinian self-rule authority and enabling the Palestinian people to exercise their inalienable rights, including their right to self-determination.

The council also stressed the need to achieve progress on all peace tracks so that a just, comprehensive and lasting peace can be achieved, Mr. Rawabdeh said.

On the issue of Jerusalem, the council stressed the Holy City's importance to the Arab and Islamic worlds and the need to restore Palestinian sovereignty over it as the capital of an independent Palestinian state, Mr. Rawabdeh said. The communique called on the international community to put pressure on Israel to prevent it from changing the 1967 status of Jerusalem or the Holy City's geographical and demographic features.

The communique urged Arab countries to take actions against countries moving their diplomatic missions to Jerusalem, or recognising the Arab city as capital of Israel.

The council called for a census of the Palestinian refugees and identifying their usurped property. It further called on the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) to continue to provide its services to the refugees.

Mr. Rawabdeh was received by Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak on Thursday. Mr. Rawabdeh said he conveyed His Majesty King Hussein's greetings to Mr. Mubarak and reviewed with him the subjects discussed during the council's session, in addition to bilateral relations. Mr. Mubarak voiced hope for a meeting with King Hussein soon, Mr. Rawabdeh said.

(Continued on page 2)

Qouriea resigns

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AP) — The minister of economy in the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) has submitted his resignation to protest Yasser Arafat's autocratic decision-making, senior Palestinian sources said Friday.

Economy Minister Ahmad Qouriea refused to say whether he was still participating in the government, commenting only that "I have not made my resignation official."

Mr. Qouriea boycotted last Saturday's cabinet meeting. There was no comment available from Mr. Arafat's office. The Palestinian leader has been out of self-rule areas for most of the week for talks in Norway, Russia and Turkey, but was due back by Saturday for the cabinet meeting.

The sources said there is a growing level of frustration within the administration Mr. Arafat appointed in May because he refuses to delegate any responsibility and spends most of his time greeting visitors.

Palestinian officials said Mr. Arafat had not given any answer to a letter he received from Mr. Qouriea last week. Mr. Arafat sent his minister for international cooperation, Nabil Shaath, to the meeting of donor countries in Paris on Sept. 9.

Officials said Mr. Qouriea, also known as Abu Alaa, wanted to remain in the Palestinian National Authority, but felt he could not continue as minister because of the level of interference.

"He still wants to serve his people and country," one official added. "But Abu Alaa felt he had no real authority just a title."

Ministers have no budgets, they have no authority at all, they cannot move a chair into their offices without Mr. Arafat's approval, said a Palestinian official close to the authority.

Mr. Qouriea said in an interview with Israeli Radio's Arabic service earlier this week that the authority had failed to make any changes on the ground and was fighting off private investment.

"I am afraid that the private sector has gone shy, not taking the risk of investing without bylaws and regulations, without approved economic plans," he said. He said the council set up to channel aid and economic planning had been undermined.

(Continued on page 3)



INNOCENT VICTIMS: An Afghan mother hit in the Afghan capital Kabul in the ongoing war among rival factions for supremacy in Afghanistan (AFP photo)

Jordan to join Haiti force

By Ayman Al Safadi
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Jordan will contribute a "small contingent" of police force to the international troops that will monitor what appears to be an imminent U.S.-led invasion of Haiti and provide humanitarian assistance to Haitian people," official sources confirmed Friday.

But a high-ranking government official told the Jordan Times that the Kingdom will not take part in an invasion of the Caribbean island if the U.S.-led forces launched the attack, saying that the country's involvement would be in a post-invasion phase.

"The Jordanian police force will only provide humanitarian assistance to the Haitian people and undertake monitoring missions," the source said, adding that the

contingent would be sent only if there was a need for it after the invasion takes place.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, Friday quoted a senior official it did not name as saying the Kingdom agreed to participate in the U.N. troops at the request of the United Nations and after U.S. President Bill Clinton contacted His Majesty King Hussein over the issue.

"Jordan will be playing that role in support of people's right to sovereignty, freedom, democracy, peace and security," Petra quoted the official as saying.

The official said the country's participation in observer missions in Haiti along with other countries "helps to serve these noble objectives within the framework of international legitimacy."

The Kingdom is the only Arab country that has

announced its decision to participate in the international force that is being formed under a U.N. Security Council resolution to force Haiti's military rulers to reinstate elected President Jean Bertrand Aristide, who is living in exile in Washington.

The Kingdom is participating in U.N. peacekeeping troops in Croatia, Cambodia, Macedonia, and other areas.

Following is a White House list of the countries taking part in the U.N. force: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Britain, Costa Rica, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Israel, Jamaica, Jordan, the Netherlands, Panama, Poland, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago.

Paris urges broad Algeria talks

PARIS (Agencies) — French Foreign Minister Alain Juppe on Friday urged all pro-democracy factions in Algeria to join the government in a dialogue aimed at ending the violence that has racked the country for nearly three years.

"I hope for my part that all democratic Algerian groups agree to take a role in the dialogue," he told Radio Luxembourg.

Sources in the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) said the group was not ruling out participating in the talks and was preparing a formal statement in consultation with FIS leaders in Algeria.

"A dialogue is absolutely not ruled out," the sources in the FIS leadership in exile told Reuters.

Algerian President Liamine Zeroual on Tuesday released from prison FIS leaders Abassi Madani and Ali Belhadj. The two were placed under house arrest, but three other top officials of the fundamentalist movement were freed.

political settlement to help end the civil strife that has torn Algeria since the government cancelled a general election in January 1992 that the FIS was poised to win. At least 10,000 people have since been killed.

Mr. Juppe said he had conflicting reports on whether the FIS and other fundamentalist factions would agree to participate in talks aimed at settling the crisis.

"We have been told that the FIS would not participate in a meeting set for next week. And then I have since seen that Madani had agreed to accept the conditions set by Zeroual. We'll have to see how things work out," he said.

The FIS sources said the group, which has been banned in Algeria, was likely to set conditions for its participation.

Conditions were likely to include freedom for all fundamentalist political prisoners and allowing leaders of all FIS factions to sit together at the same table at talks.

Mr. Juppe, speaking at a news conference on Thurs-

day, ruled out talks between FIS leaders and France, saying the Islamists should negotiate with their own government and not with Paris.

Algerian Foreign Minister Mohammad Salah Dembri said Thursday Mr. Madani has agreed that his organisation should join in government talks with the opposition.

According to Mr. Dembri, Mr. Madani sent President Zeroual a message on Aug. 20 "in which he said he accepted the conditions" set by the government for the talks and added that "he accepted to be bound" by the talks.

Tourabi acknowledges role

Sudanese Islamic leader Hassan Tourabi acknowledged Friday that Sudan was the mediating force behind new contacts between the government and the FIS.

Interviewed on state radio Friday, Dr. Tourabi called on the two parties in Algeria to "forget the past and head for the future."

UNRWA launches new phase of programmes for Palestinians

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) has formally launched the second phase of an action programme worth \$250 million to be spent in the next two years in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip aimed at "rapid social and economic improvements" in the lives of Palestinian refugees.

The announcement was made by the acting deputy commissioner-general of UNRWA, Mohammad Abdul Moumene, at a meeting of the U.N. agency's advisory commission held in Vienna on Thursday.

The programme is part of the "Peace Implementation Programme (PIP)", which was announced nearly one year ago, shortly after the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and Israel signed their landmark autonomy agreement in Washington.

According to Dr. Abdul Moumene, the second phase of the programme involves projects worth \$173 million in the Gaza Strip and \$87 million in the West Bank and has been coordinated with the Palestine Economic Council for Development and Reconstruction (PECDAR), an arm of the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) in autonomous Gaza and Jericho.

"We are now preparing separate and detailed project proposals for submission to donors next month," Dr. Abdul Moumene was quoted as saying in UNRWA statement. "We hope that they (donors), will respond with their usual generosity."

The UNRWA advisory commission, chaired by Husam Abu Ghazaleh of Jordan, "praised the agency for launching PIP with the aim of improving infrastructure and creating jobs for Palestinians as part of its swift response" to the signing of the autonomy accord, said the statement.

The commission also paid tribute to the U.N. agency's coordination with Palestinian institutions and the PNA, it said.

"A new future has opened for the refugees whom UNRWA serves," the U.S. ambassador, John B. Ritch, was quoted as saying. "Over the past months we have seen visible evidence of the ability and desire of the Palestinians to take on more and more responsibility for their own Palestinian authority and for the services that government normally provide for their people."

In addition to regular UNRWA programmes for Palestinian refugees living in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, the agency is identified as one of the main channels for using international funds pledged to support Palestinian self-rule.

Dr. Abdul Moumene told the Vienna meeting that the agency had already received funds and pledges of some \$80 million for PIP projects in the Gaza Strip and West Bank. At present, there was \$100 million worth of PIP and pre-PIP projects under implementation in the Gaza Strip and another \$53 million in the West Bank. These projects include the construction of the Gaza General Hospital, schools, clinics, shelter reconstruction, sewerage schemes and the maintenance of schools and clinics.

Dr. Abdul Moumene insisted that UNRWA had "insisted from the beginning of the peace process that its benefits must also be felt by the refugees in Jordan, Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic." "I am pleased to announce that we prepared project proposals worth about \$65 million for these three fields, against which we have received \$10 million," he said.

However, delegates heard also that the agency faced a "structural imbalance" with regard to its financing. It was receiving generous contributions for projects while the regular budget — financing UNRWA's main education, health, relief and social services to three million refugees in Jordan, Lebanon, Syria and the Gaza Strip and West Bank — remained under-funded. The commission was told that the agency

had started 1994 with a projected deficit of \$43 million in its regular and emergency budget. It had since been able to reduce this deficit to about \$30 million.

As well as considering PIP, recent developments in the Middle East, and the agency's budget deficit, the advisory commission discussed U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Ghali's decision that UNRWA Headquarters should move to Gaza by the end of 1995.

"The commission expressed its wish to continue consultations with the commissioner-general, recognising the need to further study all aspects involved in the move, the statement said.

Dr. Abdul Moumene reported that the commissioner-general, during two recent visits to Gaza when he met PNA President Yasser Arafat, had finalised with the PNA the issue of a site for the construction of a new headquarters.

The advisory commission discussed and endorsed the commissioner-general's draft annual report covering the period July 1 1993-June 30, 1994 which will be presented to the United Nations General Assembly later this year.

The advisory commission is composed of 10 members: Belgium, Egypt, France, Japan, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States.

island's military rulers the way U.S. troops did in Somalia in an operation ordered by former President George Bush to help aid reach famine victims.

"In Haiti we have a case in which what is right is clear the country in question is nearby our interests are plain the mission is achievable and limited, and the nations of the world stand with us," Mr. Clinton said.

The American presence in Somalia turned sour when U.S. troops became engaged in a futile cat-and-mouse urban guerrilla war to capture chief Somali warlord Mohammed Farah Aided.

Twenty-five U.S. soldiers and airmen were killed in the hunt for General Aided between August and October last year including 18 killed when militiamen downed two helicopters in Mogadishu.

Mr. Simpson told Reuters last month that the last American diplomats would leave Mogadishu by Thursday because Somalia had failed to make progress towards a peace agreement despite U.N. and U.S. efforts and because security only deteriorated.

"They (Somali warlords) are prepared to dance for as long as the bar is open and the orchestra is playing but they feel no urgency to reach a settlement. All of us are pretty sick of it," he said at the time.

U.S. intervention came unstuck with an undeclared war last year against Aided militiamen which prompted Mr. Clinton to order U.S. troops to leave by March.

But since then U.S. diplomatic efforts, which officials said would now continue from Nairobi, and U.N. warnings have failed to force Gen. Aided and his rivals to agree on a new government.

U.S. envoy slips out of chaotic Somalia

U.S. seeks to ease Turkey-Greece tension

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Arab League Council backs peace process

(Continued from page 1)

Palestinian people to allow them to recover their rights and establish an independent state."

Opening the meeting, Secretary General Esmat Abdul Meguid urged member states to help fund Palestinian self-rule, saying a financial commitment was "necessary to allow a global programme to be launched capable of promoting the required development in the autonomous territories."

PLO political department chief Farouk Kaddoumi said the Palestinian National Authority favoured bilateral cooperation with donor countries to set up a viable infrastructure in the Gaza and West Bank enclave of Jericho.

The Arab League demanded Arab states step up efforts with the United Nations, the United States and Russia — co-sponsors of the three-year Middle East peace process — to press Israel not to change the status quo of Jerusalem.

It asked Arab states to seek a commitment from

Israel not to make geographic and demographic changes in Jerusalem during the transitional period so as not to torpedo the last phase of permanent Israeli-Palestinian negotiations.

"The League asks the world's body to put pressure on Israel to stop erecting obstacles to the tasks of the Palestinian National Authority and to stop expanding (Jewish) settlements which are a new obstacle to peace," the statement said.

It decided to ask the United Nations to dedicate a special committee to start conducting a comprehensive survey on all Palestinian refugees and their properties.

The ministers also decided to put pressure on Israel to "make it adhere to the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and open its installations to inspection by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)."

A call from U.S. President Bill Clinton for the lifting of the Arab boycott of Israel was not discussed at the meeting.

The Arab League also decided to set up a court of

justice to settle inter-Arab disputes peacefully — a proposal dating back to the 1990-1991 Gulf crisis.

The regular meeting, attended by 15 ministers and seven representatives, urged the sponsors of the peace process to work on achieving progress on the Syrian and Lebanese tracks "so that just and comprehensive peace can be achieved."

It said the Security Council must "bear its responsibilities in securing" a full Israeli withdrawal from the Israeli-occupied Syrian Golan Heights and from a border strip in South Lebanon.

It urged member states to pay money they had pledged in previous Arab summits to help reconstruct Lebanon to allow the Lebanese government to rebuild its infrastructure.

The League called on Iran to conduct serious negotiations with the United Arab Emirates to end the dispute over the islands of Greater and Lesser Tunbs and Abu Musa peacefully.

"The League backs the efforts of the UAE in its bid to restore its sovereignty over

the three Arab islands," it said.

The resolutions urged Arab countries to find a peaceful solution to the crisis between Libya and the Western countries.

The meeting also heard calls for Arab reconciliation, to heal the rift caused by the Gulf crisis.

Dr. Abdul Meguid said it was time for Arabs to put behind them the "bitterness and painful memories" of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait in August 1990 that sharply divided loyalists.

An initiative he launched in March 1993 to promote Arab reconciliation should "form the basis" of this process, the secretary general said.

The initiative called on all Arab countries not to interfere in the internal affairs of other states and to respect their sovereignty. But so far there have been few concrete results.

Dr. Rawabdeh said an atmosphere of "understanding and cooperation" dominated the meeting, adding that it "bodes well for reconciliation."

Sudan rejects American complaint; U.S. renews 'terrorism' charges

WASHINGTON (Agencies)

— A State Department complaint to the Sudanese government about an alleged training site for extremists in Sudan has been answered with a rejection and insults to the U.S. ambassador, officials said Thursday.

Spokesman Mike McCurry said Ambassador Donald Petterson gave the Sudanese government specific information about a facility supposedly used to train non-Sudanese extremists.

The facility was cited as an example of Sudanese support for "militant extremists who commit acts of terrorism in neighbouring countries," Mr. McCurry said.

He said Sudan rejected the U.S. allegation and published the information in the media in an attempt to "discredit and insult" Mr. Petterson.

Mr. McCurry called the Sudanese action unhelpful and said it raises "serious questions about Sudanese willingness to engage in a genuine dialogue on terrorism."

Following is the text of Mr. McCurry's statement: The government of Sudan has repeatedly expressed its desire to engage the U.S. in dialogue on the issues that separate us. In particular, Khartoum has asked that we provide evidence of its support for international terrorism.

ism. In response to those requests, Ambassador Donald Petterson, on the instructions of the United States government, recently gave the government of Sudan specific information about a facility which has been and, we believe, continues to be used to train non-Sudanese extremists.

"We have this information to Khartoum as a sample of the evidence we have that the government of Sudan supports international terrorism. As we stated at the time of the August 1993 Terrorism List decision, we believe that reports of training in Sudan of militant extremists who commit acts of terrorism in neighbouring countries are credible. In addition, the available evidence indicates that Sudan allows the use of its territory as sanctuary for terrorist groups such as the Abu Nidal Organisation, Hizbollah, Hamas, and Palestine Islamic Jihad. We believe safehouses and other support facilities for radical groups exist in Sudan with the approval of the Sudanese government."

"It is unfortunate that Sudanese government officials have chosen to respond to our information, which they requested from us, by rejecting it out of hand. Khartoum's reaction, in publicising in the press and using the government-controlled media to attempt to discredit and insult Ambassador Donald Petterson, is unhelpful and raises serious questions about Sudan's willingness to engage in a genuine dialogue on terrorism."

The United States hopes that the Sudanese government will take steps to end its support for international terrorism, and will engage with Ambassador Petterson and other U.S. officials in constructive dialogue on those issues which are of concern to us."

Uganda wants sanctions

Uganda President Yoweri Museveni called on Wednesday for economic sanctions against Sudan's government, blaming it for the failure of peace talks with southern rebels.

"I think the international community should consider imposing economic sanctions against the Khartoum regime. That's when they will know they should stop killing their own people," Mr. Museveni told reporters in Uganda's capital Kampala.

African-brokered peace talks collapsed last week when the Khartoum government refused to soften its

insistence on Islamic Sharia law and its opposition to self-determination for the south.

The Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA), which is waging civil war in the south, wants a secular state and either a share of power or the right to self-rule.

Mr. Museveni accused Khartoum of arming fanatical northern Ugandan Christians who have been fighting his government for seven years.

The Lord's Resistance Army (LRA), estimated to number 2,000 fighters, is a bizarre force which wants a religious state governed according to the Bible's Ten Commandments.

Political analysts said that Khartoum could be using the LRA to disrupt supply routes to the SPLA — Uganda supports the southern rebels — while Sudanese government forces try to capture the last few garrisons still not in their hands.

"The rebellion, which was in any case started with the heavy assistance of the Sudanese government in 1987, is largely over. But Khartoum continues to give arms and other equipment to these bandits," Mr. Museveni said.

A senior Ugandan military official said Uganda's government army had killed 96 LRA rebels since late July.

Jury finds man guilty in Iraqi case

RICHMOND (AP) — A jury convicted a Jordan-born American citizen Thursday of violating the U.S. trade embargo against Iraq.

The U.S. District Court panel found Al M. Harb, 32, guilty on 23 counts of conspiracy, prohibited dealing with Iraq — including unlawful travel to the country — and money laundering.

U.S. District Judge Robert E. Payne acquitted Mr. Harb's wife, Rula Saleem Saba Harb, 25, of 18 counts that included the same charges facing her husband except for the travel counts.

Mr. Harb will be sentenced Nov. 18. He faces up to 37 years in prison and fines up to \$2 million.

Mr. Harb had elected to have his case heard by the jury of eight women and four

men, while his wife opted to allow the judge to hear the government's case against her.

Throughout the case, Rula Harb's lawyer, John A. McCabill, argued that she knew little of the business dealings of her husband.

The U.S. trade embargo was imposed in August 1990 soon after Iraqi military forces invaded Kuwait. The embargo remains in effect.

Not long after the embargo was imposed, federal prosecutors charged that Mr. Harb began prohibited trading with Iraq, first in Dayton, Ohio, and later from a rented house in Virginia.

At the time the embargo was imposed, Mr. Harb operated Expo International, an export business in Dayton. He moved to Virginia and set

up another export business called Virginia International Trading Company.

The government contended the principal business of Virginia International Trading was procuring and exporting technology, machinery, spare parts and other goods to Iraq.

Some of that material went towards rebuilding Iraqi power stations that had been destroyed by U.S. and allied bombings during the Gulf war, which followed the invasion of Kuwait, the government said.

Mr. Harb came to the United States in 1984. He became a naturalised citizen in 1991. Also born in Jordan, Rula Harb came to United States in 1987 and gained the status of permanent resident alien in 1989.

3 Britons face murder charge in Cyprus

NICOSIA (R) — Cyprus police said on Friday they were still interrogating three British soldiers as they prepared formal charges in the brutal murder of a Danish woman tour guide.

"We are continuing the interrogation of the three as well as further investigations. The three will probably face charges of pre-meditated murder," a police source told Reuters.

The decomposed, battered and naked body of 23-year-old Louise Jensen from Hirtshals, Denmark, was found in a shallow grave in the coastal town of Paralimni on Thursday.

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 77311-19
PROGRAMME TWO
17:00 Coup De Bku Dans L'Etoile
17:11 Fantomette
17:30 Le Monde Sous Marin
18:30 News in French
18:45 News in Hebrew
19:00 News in English
19:30 Dimension
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Movies, Games, and Videos
21:10 The Campbell
22:00 News in English
22:30 Feature film: "Missing"

PRAYER TIMES

03:58 Fajr
05:15 (Sunrise) Duha
11:31 Dhuhr
17:46 Maghreb
19:04 Isha

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church
Switzerland, Tel. 810740
Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 632785
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637460
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757
Teressacene Church Tel. 622366
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 625541

Anglican Church Tel. 630851, Tel. 628543
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 713331
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 715261
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 717151
Armenian International Church Tel. 652526
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 824328
German-speaking Evangelical Congregation Tel. 684195
The Lutheran-Salutary Tel. 454632
Church of Nazareth Tel. 675691
The Evangelical Local Church in Amman Tel. 811295

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.
Normal summer weather conditions will prevail with winds north-westerly moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

Min/Max. temp.
Amman 20 / 32
Aqaba 25 / 38
Djessra 18 / 35
Jordan Valley 24 / 38

Yesterday's high temperatures:
Amman 31, Aqaba 38 Humidity readings: Amman 39 per cent, Aqaba 34 per cent.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Abbas Al Kahim 885446
Dr. Shabaneh Al Isah 753774
Dr. Shatawi Abu Zayed 737962
Dr. Mohamad Al Isah 752871
First pharmacy 661912
Fendous pharmacy 778336
Al Asceba pharmacy 637055
Nairookh pharmacy 626762
Al Salam pharmacy 636730
Yacoub pharmacy 644945
Shamsat pharmacy 637660
Najib pharmacy 847632

IRABD:
Dr. Ali Al Omari 272032
Alqada pharmacy (—)
ZARQA:
Dr. Rajib Saqr 901290
Khalifah pharmacy 985417

EMERGENCIES

Food Control Centre 637111

Civil Defence Department 661111
Civil Defence Emergency 199
Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777
Fire Brigade 617101
Blood Bank 775121
Highway Police 843402
Traffic Police 896390
Public Security Department 63021
Hotel Complaints 625800
Price Complaints 661176
Water and Sewerage 897467
Complaints 897467
Amman Municipality 66612737
Al-Ahli, Abdali 661646
Italian, Al-Muhajira 771013
Al-Bashir, J. Admirech 7711126
Army, Marika 89161115
Queen Alia Hospital 60224050
Amal Hospital 674155
Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)983323
Zarqa National Hospital (09)90560
Ibn Sina Hospital (09)986732
Al-Hilana Medical Hospital (09)990990
IRABD:
Princess Beama Hospital (02)275535
Greek Catholic Hospital (02)27225
The Al Nafces Hospital (02)247100

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:
Hassan Medical Centre 813812/32
Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn 6442816
Aklah Maternity, J. Amn 642412
Jabal Amman Maternity 642362
Malhas, J. Amman 636140
Palestine, Shamsatni 6617144
Shamsatni Hospital 669131
University Hospital 845345
Al-Musader Hospital 6672279
The Islamic, Abdali 66612737
Al-Ahli, Abdali 661646
Italian, Al-Muhajira 771013
Al-Bashir, J. Admirech 7711126
Army, Marika 89161115
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Zarqa National Hospital (09)90560
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FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights

(Terminal 1)
04:30 Jakarta, Singapore (RJ)
07:45 Abu Dhabi (RJ)
08:45 New Delhi (RJ)
09:15 Doha (RJ)
09:30 Karachi, Dubai (RJ)
10:00 Colombo (RJ)
10:30 Beirut (RJ)
10:50 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
11:50 Cairo (RJ)
17:25 Istanbul (RJ)
18:25 Frankfurt, Vienna (RJ)
18:30 London, Berlin (RJ)

DEPARTURES

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights

(Terminal 1)
05:45 Beirut (RJ)
07:00 Agaba (RJ)
11:30 Amsterdam, New York (RJ)
11:35 Paris (RJ)
11:40 Istanbul (RJ)
11:55 Geneva, Brussels (RJ)
12:45 Cairo (RJ)
12:55 London (RJ)
13:30 Madrid (RJ)
13:40 Tunis (add) (RJ)
15:45 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
16:00 Larnaca (RJ)
16:30 Jeddah (RJ)
20:45 Damascus (RJ)
21:30 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

08:15 Beirut (ME)
12:50 Vienna (OS)
13:30 Abu Dhabi (GF)
20:00 Sana'a (YF)
22:55 Damascus, Paris (AF)

23:00 Tunis (add) (RJ)
23:25 Amsterdam (KL)

HUAZ RAILWAY TRAIN

Dep. Amman 8:00 a.m. every Monday
Arr. Damascus 5:00 p.m. every Monday
Dep. Damascus 7:30 a.m. every Sunday
Arr. Amman 5:00 p.m. every Sunday

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower prices in fils per kg.

Apple 620 / 400
Banana (Mukammal) 620
Banana (Mukammal) 620
Cabbage 120
Carrot 330/200
Cauliflower 240 / 180
Cucumbers (large) 180 / 100
Cucumbers (small) 320 / 240
Eggplant 280 / 180
Garlic 400 / 360
Grapes 480 / 360
Grapes (Hilwani) 850 / 600
Guava 350 / 300
Lemon 250 / 170
Marrow (large) 180 / 100
Marrow (small) 360 / 240
Mushrooms 180 / 100
Onion (dry) 320 / 200
Onion (green) 360 / 240
Pepper (hot) 360 / 240
Pepper (sweet) 360 / 240
Potato 360 / 240
Pomegranate 360 / 240
Spinach 300 / 200
Tomato 130 / 100
String Beans 700 / 400
Watermelon 200 / 100

23:15 Cairo (MS)

23:25 Amsterdam (KL)

23:30 Cairo (MS)

23:35 Amsterdam (KL)

23:40 Cairo (MS)

23:45 Amsterdam (KL)

23:50 Cairo (MS)

23:55 Amsterdam (KL)

24:00 Cairo (MS)

Tremor rocks W. Amman

By Elia Nasrallah
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A light to moderate tremor registering 4.1 on the Richter Scale shook parts of Western Amman early Friday and lasted a few seconds, the Geological Centre at the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) reported. Faisal Suyagh, head of the Building Materials Division at the RSS's Building Research Centre, told the Jordan Times Friday that the tremor was felt in Western Amman as well as Wadi Seer and it lying to the west of the capital reported that they felt the tremor.

These kinds of tremors usually occur in the Jordan Rift Valley and nearby areas of Jordan located on the western boundary of the Arabian tectonic plate, said Dr. Suyagh.

The epicentre of the tremor, which occurred at around 5:20 a.m. was believed to have been some 25 kilometres west of the capital, according to Dr. Suyagh, who said no damage was reported.

Recalling the last tremor in Jordan, Dr. Suyagh said that a series of tremors jolted Jordan between Aug. 3 and Aug. 5, 1993 affecting areas lying between 80 kilometres south of Amman and 200 kilometres south of Aqaba.

Dr. Suyagh said those tremors, estimated to have been 30 in number, registered between 3.8 and 5.7 on the Richter Scale causing concern among inhabitants, but no damage was reported then either.

When light to moderate tremors occur, suspended things and light objects are known to shake or move, and glass rattles, but concrete buildings rarely sustain damage, said Dr. Suyagh. He added that tremors registering above five could cause cracks in the walls of old buildings.

Asked if Jordan could experience aftershocks following the Jordan tremor, Dr. Suyagh said that it was a remote possibility.

Two tremors measuring 5 and 3.7 on the Richter Scale shook the eastern parts of Jordan in 1989 and were recorded by the RSS's Seismological Centre that reported their epicentres to be 160 kilometres east of Amman. No damage to buildings was reported then, though the tremors were felt in different parts of the Kingdom.

Meanwhile Radio Israel has reported that a small earthquake centred north of Jericho shook the West Bank and Israel Friday but caused no damage or injuries.

The station said that the earthquake registered a preliminary magnitude of 4.1 on the Richter Scale and its epicentre was about 20 kilometres north of the self-rule area of Jericho.

According to the report, the shock waves, which were felt in the north of Israel, also occurred at 5.18 a.m.

AMMAN — The first step towards privatising Royal Jordanian, the national carrier, will be transforming it to a wholly government-owned commercial enterprise followed by a series of financial restructuring and reorganising of its operations, informed sources said Friday. According to the sources, proposed measures would also include reducing or eliminating some of the long-haul flights of the airline deemed unprofitable.

The sources said an international consultancy firm was expected to finalise by the end of this month a study on the financial status of RJ and procedures for recommendations for its privatisation.

Parts of the results of the study, being conducted by KPMG Peat of London, were released during a workshop two weeks ago. These contained a recommendation that the first step to be undertaken is changing the airline's status as a "full-fledged commercial entity subject to all pertinent rules and regulations applied by the controller of companies and owned wholly by the government," said one source.

"A restructuring of the financial status of the company will follow so that there is a better debt-equity ratio," added the source, referring to the nearly \$500 million external and internal debts of the airline.

The debt burden, which surfaced in the late 80s as a result of what industry sources describe as an over-ambitious expansion programme undertaken in the early 80s, was one of the main factors that prompted the government to consider privatising the airline.

The sources declined to reveal the target capital of the airline as a commercial entity as proposed. "It is definitely more than \$100 million," said another source when reminded that an earlier study conducted by international auditors Arthur Anderson had recommended that figure.

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The source said the KPMG Peat study would recommend additional moves to raise the capital further.

"The results of the study would be released next month and then it is up to the government to adopt whatever action it deems fit to undertake," said the source.

According to the source, other measures suggested by KPMG Peat would include a "reshaping of the network of the airline to make it more regional than international."

The study has found that RJ "is not very competitive in some of the long-haul routes" and hence the recommendation to focus on regional routes, said the source. No detail was immediately available on the specific routes that the study found as non-profitable for the airline.

Industry experts agree that the airline, which has several lucrative flight operations in Asia and Europe, is profitable in general terms, but the debt burden is eating away its profits.

The second step in privatising the airline after commercialising it is expected to come after two years when the government would invite local and international investors to buy equity but with a clear distinction — Jordanians will retain controlling interest in the entity by maintaining a 40 per cent ceiling on foreign capital.

Transport Minister Samir Kassar, who heads a high-level committee entrusted with addressing RJ's problems, told the Jordan Times last week that moves towards privatising the airline were unlikely to be undertaken before the end of the year.

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Commercialisation of RJ to come before privatisation

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

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The sources said an international consultancy firm was expected to finalise by the end of this month a study on the financial status of RJ and procedures for recommendations for its privatisation.

Parts of the results of the study, being conducted by KPMG Peat of London, were released during a workshop two weeks ago. These contained a recommendation that the first step to be undertaken is changing the airline's status as a "full-fledged commercial entity subject to all pertinent rules and regulations applied by the controller of companies and owned wholly by the government," said one source.

"A restructuring of the financial status of the company will follow so that there is a better debt-equity ratio," added the source, referring to the nearly \$500 million external and internal debts of the airline.

The debt burden, which surfaced in the late 80s as a result of what industry sources describe as an over-ambitious expansion programme undertaken in the early 80s, was one of the main factors that prompted the government to consider privatising the airline.

The sources declined to reveal the target capital of the airline as a commercial entity as proposed. "It is definitely more than \$100 million," said another source when reminded that an earlier study conducted by international auditors Arthur Anderson had recommended that figure.

An injection of JD 35 million in government funds into the airline raised its capital to JD 58 million three months ago. Simultaneously, the government also helped RJ reschedule part of its internal debts as part of the first concrete move in many years to streamline the financial status of the airline.

The source said the KPMG Peat study would recommend additional moves to raise the capital further.

"The results of the study would be released next month and then it is up to the government to adopt whatever action it deems fit to undertake," said the source.

According to the source, other measures suggested by KPMG Peat would include a "reshaping of the network of the airline to make it more regional than international."

The study has found that RJ "is not very competitive in some of the long-haul routes" and hence the recommendation to focus on regional routes, said the source. No detail was immediately available on the specific routes that the study found as non-profitable for the airline.

Industry experts agree that the airline, which has several lucrative flight operations in Asia and Europe, is profitable in general terms, but the debt burden is eating away its profits.

The second step in privatising the airline after commercialising it is expected to come after two years when the government would invite local and international investors to buy equity but with a clear distinction — Jordanians will retain controlling interest in the entity by maintaining a 40 per cent ceiling on foreign capital.

Transport Minister Samir Kassar, who heads a high-level committee entrusted with addressing RJ's problems, told the Jordan Times last week that moves towards privatising the airline were unlikely to be undertaken before the end of the year.

Meanwhile, the government has taken a decision in principle to sell 100 per cent of the RJ-owned Alia Gateway Hotel near the Queen Alia International Airport (QALA) and 50 per cent of the duty-free "Mall" at the airport, sources said.

"A decision to this effect was taken two months ago," said one source.

"The actual deal depended on an assessment of the value of the hotel and the duty free shop."

Local reports said last week that a committee which evaluated the Gateway and the Mall had submitted its findings to the Cabinet, which is likely to conclude the transaction soon. The Social Security Corporation (SSC) and the Jordan Investment Bureau, both government-guided agencies, are the bidders.

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"A decision to this effect was taken two months ago," said one source.

"The actual deal depended on an assessment of the value of the hotel and the duty free shop."

Local reports said last week that a committee which evaluated the Gateway and the Mall had submitted its findings to the Cabinet, which is likely to conclude the transaction soon. The Social Security Corporation (SSC) and the Jordan Investment Bureau, both government-guided agencies, are the bidders.

Jordan asks UNRWA to speed up aid to projects

AMMAN (Petra) — Asem Ghosheh, director of the Jordanian Affairs Department, Friday urged the advisory council members of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) to speed up their aid to the projects in Jordan and in its fields of operations.

Relieving Jordan's stress to the annual council meeting in Vienna, Mr. Ghosheh said that by providing aid to the agency, the donor nations would be relieving the burdens on the host countries which incurred huge expenditures in infrastructure schemes benefiting the Palestinian refugees.

Mr. Ghosheh cautioned that aid to the agency should not mean being given at the expense of the refugee problem, which, he said, should be solved through the implementation of U.N. resolutions.

Mr. Ghosheh also said donor nations aid to UNRWA to build schools and other infrastructure projects at the camps should not be an excuse for these nations to reduce their annual financial contributions to the agency's budget for educational, social and health services.

Voicing Jordan's appreciation of the donor nations for the direct aid to UNRWA, Mr. Ghosheh said Jordan was ready to offer the agency all facilities and cooperate with the donor nations towards alleviating the sufferings of the Palestinian refugees.

Referring to UNRWA's commissioner General's report, which will be submitted to the U.N. General Assembly, Mr. Ghosheh said it contains a budget for UNRWA's expenses in the 1994-5 period which amounts to \$632.3 million.

But, he added, according to the report, only \$69 million have been allocated for Jordan's regional office, corresponding only to 20 per cent of the total budget at a time when the Kingdom hosts nearly 40 per cent of the total number of refugees as registered with the agency.

Furthermore, said Mr. Ghosheh, the volume of refugees in Jordan has risen by at least 11.3 per cent this year to 1.193 million of whom nearly 80 per cent live in refugee camps, and all depend on government-supplied municipal and other services.

For this reason, he said, Jordan calls on donor nations to reconsider their stand and extend more aid to the Kingdom to enable the country to shoulder its growing humanitarian responsibilities side by side with UNRWA.

Mr. Ghosheh voiced Jordan's welcome of UNRWA's decision to move part of its administrative offices from Vienna to its fields of operations in the Middle East, promising continued Jordanian cooperation with the agency.

The advisory council members, which include donor nations, are revising a draft report to be submitted by the agency's commissioner general, Ilter Turkmen, to the U.N. General Assembly later this month.

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No clues yet into double murder, family uncooperative — Udwan

By Rana Hussein
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Police still have no clues in their investigation into the murder of a businessman and his wife in Amman last August, and police Chief Lieutenant General Abdul Rahman Udwan blames the victims' family for not cooperating with police.

"We did not feel that we were getting the full cooperation from the victims' families, and we were able to obtain very limited information on Mr. Halaweh, except that he used to wake up, go to work and come back home from work every day," Lt. Gen. Udwan said in response to questions during a lecture held by the Rotary clubs in Jordan last Wednesday.

The killing of Rushdi Halaweh, 46, and his wife Afifa Kassasir, 34, on Aug. 15, sent shockwaves throughout the community.

The couple were shot and killed at close range while they were sleeping in their house in Um Utheina by an unidentified assailant who broke into their house, and shot at the couple several times.

Mr. Halaweh's mother who was sleeping in the same house was also shot by the gunman, but survived and was able to give police a description of the assailant.

"It is impossible that a person like Mr. Rushdi, a businessman who owned a large company, had no relationships with anyone other than his family," he added.

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Japan to loan Kingdom \$5m to up telephone lines

AMMAN (Petra) — The Japanese government will loan Jordan a \$5 million to partly help finance a JD 200 million project which seeks to increase the country's telephone capacity to more than 300,000 lines by the year 2000, according to Minister of Post and Communications Hani Dabbas.

In a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, Dabbas Friday said the loan will provide JD 90 million towards the project's costs, while it will seek grants and loans to cover the remaining amount.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

King visits Army headquarters

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein, the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, Thursday met with Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General Abdul Hafez Mirai Kaabneh and discussed with him issues concerning the armed forces. His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and Royal Court Chief Staff Zeid Ben Shaker attended part of the meeting, which was held at the Armed Forces Headquarters.

Regional experts to discuss polio

AMMAN (Petra) — A three-day inter-country meeting on establishing polio-free zones starts here Monday under the patronage of Health Minister Aref Batayneh. Participants will review the immunization programmes in their respective countries concentrating on polio vaccination, and their strategies to eliminate polio by the year 2000. They will also discuss issues pertaining to the establishment of polio-free zones and work out a mechanism for cooperation and coordination to ensure the total elimination of polio in these countries.

No new taxes, finance minister says

Continued from page 1

Mr. Gammoh noted that proposals drawn up by technical committees were to be presented to a committee of 16 headed by the prime minister. He said it was the forum to decide on how to approach the very essence of the problem of outdated taxation and collection methods as well as redundant processes which only add to bureaucracy.

"This committee includes representatives of every sector of the economy — traders, manufacturers, banks, professional associations, the Central Bank of Jordan, and various ministries — and the revamping of taxation system would be decided only after close study of each and every issue involved," he said.

Every sector has the authority to have itself heard at the committee," said

the minister. "The whole philosophy of revamping the taxation system is to make it easier to be understood and followed by the taxpayer by simplifying the procedures."

The proposals, "which are only in a draft form now," focus mainly on methods to make the taxation procedures transparent, he added.

The announcement that the taxation system was about to be revamped surprised many who did not expect the government to do so. In the hypothesis that capital gains in the market will be subject to taxes, then some of those entities — mainly export-oriented companies — making those gains would have benefited by a larger measure by the total exemption of export-earned profits from income tax, he noted.

"One has to look at the overall picture of taxation in the country and should see

North Korea, U.S. at odds over nuclear reactor choice

SEOUL (AFP) — Efforts to still the Korean nuclear crisis were dented Friday as Pyongyang and Washington fell out over the choice of replacement for North Korean reactors at the heart of a suspected nuclear weapons programme.

North Korea fired a verbal broadside at the South and defiantly renewed its objections to full international scrutiny of its nuclear activities.

U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Robert Gallucci slammed North Korea's insistence that it choose the type of reactors to replace its controversial existing models.

"That is ludicrous, it's almost too much to take it seriously," he said at a press conference here, adding: "I have no intention to reconcile with (North Korea) on this issue."

He was commenting on a North Korean statement Thursday that ruled out using South Korean models to replace the North's graphite nuclear reactors — which generate plutonium, a substance used in atomic bombs — with the safer light-water version.

Kim Jong-U, who led a North Korean delegation to talks with the United States,

said Thursday in Berlin that as the buyer of the replacement equipment, North Korea should have the right to choose the reactor supplier.

The North Korean officials ruled out Russian equipment as unacceptable from a technical and safety point of view, and instead mentioned other big Western names such as Siemens of Germany, Framatome of France and American Westinghouse as suppliers that might interest Pyongyang.

But Mr. Gallucci, chief U.S. negotiator in sensitive talks aimed at ending North Korea's nuclear stand-off, said the South should play "a central role in financing and constructing" the reactors in the North.

"We could not see a model financially viable other than South Korean models," he said.

South Korea insisted that it would not provide financial aid unless it was assured of a key role in constructing the reactors. But North Korea fears it would have to rely on the South's expertise for power generation.

"North Korea made a statement which broke the principle reached at Geneva talks," a South Korean Foreign

Ministry official told AFP.

The official, who preferred to remain anonymous, said that at the earlier Geneva meeting last month, North Korea agreed to leave all issues concerning the supply of reactors up to Washington.

"South Korea and the United States will not accept this," the South Korean official said.

The North Korean News Agency (KCNA), monitored in Tokyo, blasted South Korea for promoting a reactor type that was essentially a U.S. design and "a useless antique... a cripple in the womb, there being problems in its safety before its birth."

It also reiterated Pyongyang's rejection of International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) demands to open all its nuclear sites to agency inspectors.

"We can never allow it, because it is a wanton infringement on our sovereignty and part of the policy of stifling the DPRK," the official news agency said, referring to North Korea's official name, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

It attacked such demands as an attempt by the IAEA to "put a spoke in the wheel of DPRK-U.S. talks," and

warned the situation "will be more complicated" if the agency let this "old mode of thinking" prevail.

An IAEA report this week said that inspection of a contested North Korean reprocessing site at the Yongbyon complex, 100 kilometres (60 miles) north of Pyongyang, showed that it had produced no plutonium since February 1993.

But it stressed that the inspectors had not been authorised to enter a second reprocessing site in an "advanced state of construction." Nor have inspectors been admitted to two other sites suspected of being used to stock waste.

In a related development, reports here said that the United States and North Korea neared agreement at expert-level talks in Pyongyang this week to exchange liaison offices with "consular status."

But Mr. Gallucci said U.S. delegates had only held fact-finding talks in Pyongyang. "We are at the preliminary stage," he said, adding Washington would seek rapprochement with Pyongyang only in parallel with improvement in inter-Korean relations.

It also categorically refuses access to two undeclared sites where the IAEA suspects nuclear waste is stocked, possibly from a military programme.

Nevertheless, the draft resolution on the North Korean question is fairly moderate so as not to hinder on-going negotiations between North Korea and the United States.

It does express the international community's "concern" that Pyongyang is continuing to violate the guarantee agreement. It also expresses the hope that North Korea will rejoin the IAEA and calls on Pyongyang to open all its sites to inspection, including the two undeclared ones.

The IAEA's general assembly is also to discuss an Israeli request for technical aid which was withdrawn after Israel bombed the Iraqi reactor in Tamuz in 1981.

IAEA to tackle nuclear trafficking, N. Korea programme

VIENNA (AFP) — International trafficking in radioactive materials and North Korea's controversial nuclear programme will top the agenda at the annual general assembly of the 121-nation International Atomic Energy Agency, which opens here Monday.

The trafficking issue has taken on such urgency that it was added to the assembly's initial agenda at the request of the European Union.

A draft resolution is expected to ask the IAEA's director general to step up current measures to curb the illegal trade.

The agency has been gathering and analysing information supplied by member states. It also organised seminars and trains national experts in increasing surveillance on nuclear materials.

The North Korean nuclear

issue appears less urgent than it appeared a few months ago with much of the tension defused in bilateral talks with the United States.

Pyongyang also authorised two IAEA inspectors to peek into two more of the seven nuclear sites it declared in 1992. The inspectors found no evidence that North Korea has been diverting plutonium from its nuclear power plants to make atomic weapons.

They determined that North Korea has not produced plutonium since February 1993 in one of two fuel reprocessing units at its Yongbyon nuclear complex.

The agency's director general, Hans Blix said Monday that "the gamma mapping results and the preliminary evaluation of the results so far available from sample analysis have not indicated

reprocessing of recently irradiated fuel."

It takes about eight kilograms (18 pounds) of plutonium to make a bomb.

However, the inspectors were not allowed to take certain measurements (gamma mapping) from a new process line under construction at the radiochemical laboratory there.

North Korea has steadfastly denied possession of an atomic weapon and says it has no intention of building one.

But, it removed spent fuel rods from the Yongbyon reactor in June in defiance of IAEA requests to monitor the operation.

North Korea pulled out of the IAEA in June after the organisation withdrew all technical assistance except in the medical field, and has still not reopened all seven sites.

Swedish politicians woo undecided voters

STOCKHOLM (R) — Swedish politicians Friday sought to win the hearts and minds of a million voters who say they have yet to decide which way to vote in Sunday's elections.

The opposition Social Democratic Party (SDP), seen by opinion polls a month ago as cruising into office, is now polling around 44 per cent of the electorate.

Single-party governments are rare in Sweden and SDP leader Ingvar Carlsson has said he wants to join forces with the centrist Liberal Party. But the latest opinion surveys suggest the two will only just scrape together a majority.

With a massive 1.5 million of the 6.5-million strong electorate having already voted by post and four million already committed to a particular party, around one million Swedes have yet to decide, according to the surveys.

Mr. Carlsson has been puzzled at his party's loss of momentum, with some pointing to SDP statements that Sweden will have to pay more tax to try to clean up economic problems.

Toivo Sjören, of polling institute SIFO, said the fall in support could not be explained by SDP warnings that some child benefits would have to be cut under a new government.

"It's rather a symbol that hopes the SDP would protect all welfare benefits have been dented," he said.

Swedes were hit by four opinion polls Friday, with three of them confirming waning support for the SDP, which has campaigned strongly on keeping Sweden's welfare state.

Analysts say SDP support began fading soon after Swedish industrialists and financial markets began an aggressive campaign to convince politicians of the need to curb massive debt and its budget deficit.

Russia hopes for Tajik peace as fighting worsens

DUSHANBE (R) — Fighting intensified Friday between Tajik rebels and government forces backed by Russia and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), but a senior Russian diplomat held out fresh hopes of reconciliation.

Russia's role in helping defend Tajikistan's border with Afghanistan was marred by the deaths of four more Russian Border Guards. Interfax News Agency said they were killed by a landmine in the Tajik mountains. Four others were injured.

"Neither side in the Tajik military confrontation is in a position to achieve a decisive victory by force," ITAR-TASS news agency quoted Vadim Kuznetsov, head of the Foreign Ministry's CIS Department, as saying.

"The internal Tajik conflict can only be settled through negotiations," he added.

Mr. Kuznetsov said he felt "definite optimism" about peace talks now being held in Tehran under U.N. auspices. He pointed out that opposition leaders had agreed to meet a government leader

they trusted, Deputy Parliament Chairman Abdulmajid Dostiyev.

But military activity has increased since the Central Asian country's acting head of state, Imamli Rakhmonov, bowed to Russian pressure last week and appealed to opposition leaders to come home and take part in elections.

Presidential elections due in September were postponed until November to give the rebels, a broad alliance of Islamists and democrats who lost a civil war in 1992 to the current pro-Moscow leadership, time to organise their return.

The opposition, until now confined to bases over the Tajik-Afghan border and to pockets of resistance in mountainous eastern Tajikistan, immediately launched an attack on the key central region around the town of Tavildara.

Tajikistan is shaped rather like the figure eight. Tavildara is in the country's narrow central "waist". Defence Ministry sources said Friday that government forces had virtually regained control over it.

Liberians catch failed Monrovia coup leader

MONROVIA (R) — Liberian civilians Friday captured and beat the disguised leader of a failed coup attempt and handed him over to African intervention troops.

Former Armed Forces of Liberia (AFL) Chief Charles Julew led about 100 disgruntled AFL fighters who briefly seized the West African country's administrative centre Thursday but were forced out by a massive assault by the ECOMOG intervention forces.

Gen. Julew, well-known to most Liberians and hated for his brutal suppression of unrest under former President Samuel Doe, escaped a land and sea bombardment from the executive mansion and slipped through a cordon of 1,000 ECOMOG troops, relief sources said.

"He managed to slither away with most of his men, I can't imagine how," a relief worker said.

But witnesses told Reuters he was recognised by civilians near the American embassy in Monrovia Friday morning, despite being disguised in Arab robes and head-dress.

Passers-by beat him and stripped him before handing him over to an ECOMOG Patrol. He was later seen by reporters crouched naked and handcuffed on a bare floor at ECOMOG Headquarters.

His fighters are believed to have made their way back to AFL barracks, not far from the mansion which was once the seat of Liberia's presidents but now houses administrative offices.

Hurd wants China to 'deepen' Hong Kong cooperation

HONG KONG (AFP) — British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd wound up a fact-finding visit to Hong Kong Friday with a strong plea to China "to deepen and widen" cooperation in the run-up to 1997.

Speaking to reporters, Mr. Hurd specifically called for the Sino-British Joint Liaison Group (JLJG) — the diplomatic body hammering out the technical aspects of the change of sovereignty — to speed up its work dramatically in the last 33 months of British rule.

The JLJG meets next Tuesday for three days in Beijing, ahead of talks at the end of the month in New York between Mr. Hurd and Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen.

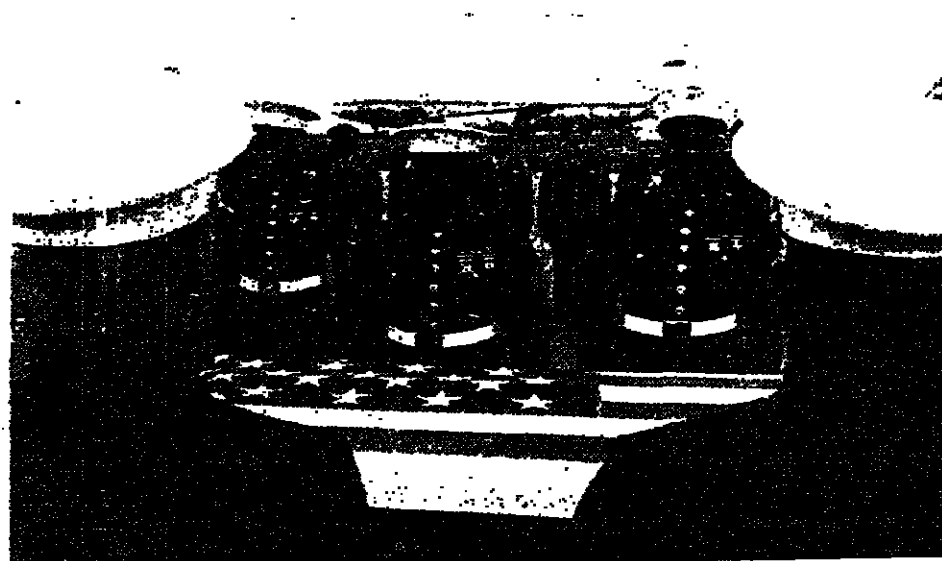
"We are serious about making progress in cooperation with China for the benefit of Hong Kong," said Hurd, who was flanked by Governor Chris Patten.

"We are serious... because there is a shared interest — Britain's interest, China's interest — that this cooperation should succeed," he added.

While the JLJG is near agreement on financial arrangements for Hong Kong's \$20.3 billion new airport and related work, Mr. Hurd stressed: "Cooperation needs to deepen and widen, as foreseen in the joint declaration," the 1984 treaty which set the terms of Hong Kong's handover.

Mr. Hurd's visit, the first in 15 months, came amid a new Sino-British spat over the awarding of a major container terminal franchise to a consortium led by Jardine Matheson Ltd., Hong Kong's biggest British-controlled trading house.

This week China alleged, through a press commentary, that Jardines won the job for backing Mr. Patten's democratic reforms. Mr. Patten and his staff flatly deny the charge, while Jardines has kept silent.



U.S. Marines stand around the coffin containing remains of U.S. Capt. John Dunham before placing it on a plane flying out of Moscow (AFP photo)

Body of U.S. cold war pilot flown home

MOSCOW (AFP) — The body of a man believed to have been a U.S. Air Force captain shot down while on a spying mission over the Soviet Union 42 years ago was flown back to the United States Thursday.

After a U.S.-Russian ceremony on the tarmac of Moscow's Sheremetyevo-I Airport, the flag-draped metal casket containing the remains of Captain John Dunham was carried by a Marine honour guard on to a giant C-141 U.S. Air Force plane.

"It does my heart good to see a soldier go home even after 42 years in a place as remote from America," said Richard Miles, deputy chief of mission at the U.S. embassy here.

Capt. Dunham had been listed as missing since Oct. 7, 1952, when his eight-man RB-29 reconnaissance plane was blown apart by a Soviet Air Force fighter over the Kuril Islands off Russia's east coast.

The bodies of the other seven airmen, who were flying in an area Washington claimed as U.S. airspace at the height of the cold war, have never been recovered.

The U.S. government has publicly confirmed 38 downings of U.S. aircraft during the cold war, not all of them by Soviet forces.

Unknown to the Americans, the body of the 22-year-old aviator was picked up out of the sea by a Russian

Border Guard who took the dead man's ring and kept it for the next four decades, before telling his story.

It is unknown exactly when the pilot died. His parachute and life raft had opened, but this may have been caused by the impact of hitting the water after falling thousands of feet, said U.S. Colonel Michael Semenech.

Under orders from Moscow, the body was buried on Yuri, a tiny, barren island now home to fewer than a dozen Border Guards and some livestock.

In 1992, the United States was given a declassified letter to Stalin referring to Capt. Dunham and a year later the man who had pulled the body from the water came forward after seeing an advertisement placed by the Americans in a local newspaper.

However, investigators from the U.S.-Russia Joint Commission on POW/MIAs (prisoners of war, missing in action), which searches for war victims from both countries, did not find the grave until Sept. 2 after weeks combing Yuri Island.

Capt. Dunham's former wife, who remarried a decade after the incident, and the daughter he barely knew were informed immediately.

The United States will not have incontrovertible proof of the body's identity until the U.S. Army Central Identification Laboratory in Hawaii conducts tests, but even after 42 years officials

were sure they had the right man.

Apart from documentary evidence provided by the Russian government and the former guard's testimony, a sleeve in the grave was found under ultraviolet light to bear a patch that read "U.S. Air Force," said Col. Semenech, a member of the POW/MIA commission.

The cold war victim was given a brief send-off from Moscow's airport at a ceremony attended by two Russian generals and more than a dozen other military and civilian officials.

"For 42 years Capt. Dunham was buried in a foreign land, but today he begins his journey home," Col. Semenech said as a strong wind pulled at the edges of the Stars and Stripes over the casket.

Major General Anatoli Volkhov, also a member of the POW/MIA commission, said the ceremony for his former foe was in honour of qualities such as "dignity" and "duty to his motherland."

The casket will be flown to Hawaii via Germany and Washington state. Once the identity of the body has been confirmed as Capt. Dunham, it will be buried at a site of the family's choosing — probably in Arlington National Cemetery in Washington or in Maryland, where Capt. Dunham's wife lives, U.S. officials said.

Yeltsin foes demand early ballot

KALININGRAD, Russia (AFP) — Key opposition leaders called here Friday for the immediate resignation of the Russian government and for early presidential elections.

The demand was contained in an official statement published at the close of a "Congress of Patriotic Forces" and signed notably by Alexander Rutskoi, the former vice-president, and Gennadi Zyuganov, head of the Communist Party.

The call for early elections and the government's resignation violated a political pact signed earlier this year by Mr. Yeltsin and most of the country's leading politicians, aimed at stabilising the country.

Mr. Rutskoi, who had just been freed under an amnesty after being jailed for his role in the October 1993 armed revolt, and Mr. Zyuganov were among the few leading political figures who did not sign the pact.

Presidential elections are due to be held by June 1996. The two-day congress in the west Russian enclave of Kaliningrad was billed as an effort by leaders of Russia's main opposition movements

to forge a united front with the common objective of replacing Yeltsin and reversing reforms.

Both the parliamentary opposition and various other anti-Yeltsin movements however remain deeply divided on many fundamental issues and analysts predicted that their diverging objectives would make it difficult for them to unite.

Friday's statement however marked a sharpening of the tone from key opposition leaders following half a year of relative calm and debate that centered on foreign policy and marginal domestic issues.

The statement also called for Oct. 4 — the anniversary of the crushing of the 1993 parliamentary rebellion — to be declared the "day of the Russian patriot."

The opposition leaders also announced plans to organise a second congress next month aimed at strengthening ties between anti-Yeltsin groups and selecting a common candidate to run for president.

Vladimir Zhirinovskiy, leader of the ultranationalist Liberal Democratic Party and a key figure who has

made clear his presidential ambitions, did not attend the Kaliningrad congress.

Several other notable opposition figures, including Sergei Baburin, a nationalist member of parliament and Colonel Viktor Alksnis, a leader of the non-parliamentary nationalist group Russian National Congress, were present.

Earlier this year, the speaker of the upper house of the Russian parliament, a Yeltsin supporter, called for postponing both the 1996 presidential elections as well as legislative elections scheduled to be held by the end of 1995.

That proposal was initially denounced by opposition groups and treated coolly by the Kremlin but nonetheless continues to be discussed in political circles as a possible option.

Earlier this week a top Kremlin official voiced support for organising simultaneous legislative and presidential elections in 1996.

Mr. Yeltsin remains on vacation on the Black Sea while the next parliamentary session was due to begin Oct. 5.

Parliament sends Mitsotakis for trial

ATHENS (R) — The Greek parliament voted Thursday to send former Conservative Prime Minister Constantine Mitsotakis for trial on four charges, including taking a bribe in the sale of a state cement firm.

The 300-seat parliament decided to try Mr. Mitsotakis on charges of breach of faith, taking bribes, morally instigating a crime and violating his duties as a cabinet member, House Speaker Apostolos Kaklamanis said.

"After the vote he is being sent to be tried by a special court..." Mr. Kaklamanis said.

Mr. Mitsotakis, 75, is accused of receiving a \$22.5 million bribe in the 1992 sale of the state Agrotis Cement Company to Italy's Calcestruzzi when he was prime minister.

He has denied any wrongdoing and says the case is a personal vendetta against him.

"It is an act of personal revenge aimed exclusively at

me," he told parliament "ahead of the vote."

Conservative deputies walked out before the vote in protest. Only 179 parliamentarians were present.

The charges, all surrounding the sale of Heracles, were voted on separately. The breach of faith charge had 162 ballots for, one against, 15 blanks and one spoilt.

Fewer deputies voted to send Mr. Mitsotakis to court for moral instigation of a crime, with 152 for, 12 against, 14 blanks and one spoilt.

The ruling Socialist Pasok Party, which has a 170-seat majority in parliament, opened the case after winning elections in October 1994. The vote showed not all Socialist deputies supported Mr. Mitsotakis' prosecution.

The Communist Party cast blank ballots while the nationalist political Spring Party voted to send him to court only on one charge, that of taking a bribe.

Parliament also voted to

send to trial for breach of faith former Industry Minister Andreas Andrianopoulos and former Finance Minister Ioannis Paliokrasas.

A special investigating all-party committee, where Socialist deputies also had the majority, decided this month to propose to parliament that Mr. Mitsotakis and his former ministers be sent to a special court.

The committee also said that former Agrotis Vice President Nikos Georgiadis and businessman Iraklis Mathiopoulos were accomplices in the scandal and asked for their prosecution.

Parliament voted to try Mr. Georgiadis and Mr. Mathiopoulos along with the three politicians.

The Heracles sale, the only success in the conservative government's ambitious privatisation plan, had been dogged by allegations of scandal since the state Greek National Bank emerged as a surprise bidder.

Millionaire advertises for wife — on billboard

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — A millionaire bachelor isn't waiting for cupid's arrow, or fate to bring him a wife. He's relying on the miracles of modern advertising.

The anonymous bride-seeker has posted a highway billboard here reading: "Millionaire looking for a wife ages 35 to 45." A telephone number is provided. A call made to the number was answered by a recorded female voice asking for information about religious preference, age, occupation, education, number of times married, number of children, and age.

The voice requests a recent photo be mailed to a post office box. Donrey Outdoor Advertising would not disclose the man's name or how much he paid for the outsized signage.

It was not known why he opted for this marketing strategy instead of, say, newspaper personal ads or old-fashioned serendipity. Other billboard companies said they have not received similar business and that the only other billboard-using bachelors they knew of were in Texas. "That's about as nuts as you get — asking for a wife," said Richard Frankenberg of Whiteco Metromark Outdoor Advertising.

Unknown Lennon recording fetches \$122,500

LONDON (AP) — A recording of John Lennon singing with his teenage band in a Liverpool youth club nearly 40 years ago sold for \$78,500 (\$122,500) at Sotheby's Thursday. EMI, the Beatles' original recording company, bought the jangly reel of tape, along with the heavy tape-recorder that a young fan legged to the club on a Saturday night in July 1957 to record an obscure group, the Quarry Men. Bob Molyneux, now a retired policeman, realised he had something special when the Quarry Men metamorphosed into the Beatles. He put the tape in a bank vault. "It's a unique part of music history that EMI felt it really had to have," EMI spokesman David Hughes said. The sale price was less than the auction house had hoped.

Sotheby's, in advance publicity, anticipated that the tape would raise more than \$100,000 (\$156,000). But everyone was pleased, said Sotheby's spokesman Simon De Burton. "There was no precedent for estimating a value," he said. Molyneux said the day he made the recording, Paul McCartney, a chubby 15-year-old, was also watching the Quarry Men, and met Lennon for the first time. "It is undoubtedly a historic recording," said Hughes. "It was made on the day... The Beatles were born, you could say." The tape was the centerpiece of a sale of more than 500 pieces of rock 'n' roll memorabilia that raised nearly \$920,000 (\$1.4 million). Some items didn't sell, including two Jimi Hendrix guitars from 1968 which Sotheby's had valued at a total of \$100,000 (\$156,000).

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World News



Young Rwandan refugees play in the stagnating water of a pond at the Katala camp, 50 kilometres from the Zairean border town of Goma (AFP photo)

Hutus enter aid agency compound to carry out killing

GOMA, Zaire (Agencies) — Hutu militants from Rwanda dragged a countryman out of a Dutch-run camp near Goma and stoned him to death after accusing him of being a Tutsi spy trying to poison a water tank.

For weeks, militants have waged a deadly campaign to incite the estimated 1.2 million Rwandan Hutus in Zaire against the victorious Tutsi rebel government at home.

Dozens of Hutu refugees who have advocated returning to Rwanda have been killed or beaten, and the extremists have warned refugees to beware of "Tutsi spies" in the camps.

But Thursday was the first time the militants invaded a compound run by a foreign aid agency to kill someone, a spokesman for the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees said Friday.

"We could do nothing. What could we do?" the spokesman, Kris Janowski, asked. "The U.N. does not have a protection force."

The killing has spread new fear among the 1,000 foreign aid workers helping the Hutu refugees living in camps in eastern Zaire.

A group of six Hutu militants spotted the middle-aged man near the Dutch-run camp in Mugunga, just north of Goma, which has a drinking water tank.

"They wanted to get the man, but he managed to take shelter inside the compound," Mr. Janowski told reporters.

"After some minutes, the killers came inside the camp and dragged him away," he said. "Within minutes the man was dead."

It was not immediately known how many foreign aid workers were inside the compound at the time of the killing.

Until now, no aid workers have been killed. But relief organisations fear that rumours about Tutsi spies, poisoned water supplies and other accusations could trigger a mob reaction and endanger their safety.

"We are all working under a very difficult situation already. The rumours have added to the problem," said John Springs, field chief of

the U.N. Children's Fund. Mr. Janowski said the rumours were creating a general feeling of insecurity in the three main camps in Goma, where an estimated 840,000 refugees live.

Zaire became the home of Hutu refugees in July after they fled the advancing army of Tutsi rebels now in power in Rwanda.

More than 800,000 other Hutu refugees are in other countries.

Tutsi rebels resumed their long-running battle after up to 500,000 Tutsi civilians were slaughtered in massacres orchestrated by the ousted Hutu government. Many of the killers now live in the three main camps in eastern Zaire.

The Mugunga refugee camp is evolving into an unofficial base for troops loyal to the ousted government.

An aid worker in Mugunga camp who declined to be identified because of fear of retaliation said women and children were leaving only to be replaced by men of military age mingling with thousands of troops loyal to the former Rwandan government who visit Mugunga each day.

"We are seeing the camp being turned into a base for re-invasion (of Rwanda)," he told Reuters. "And for that reason we do not want to stay here. We don't want to offer our services to people

planning to go back to war." The U.S. representative to Rwanda, Shaharyar Khan, said last week U.N. troops saw armed men in military fatigues crossing into Rwanda from Zaire and Burundi apparently preparing for a guerrilla war against the victorious Rwanda Patriotic Front (RPF).

Mr. Khan held talks this week with Zairean President Mobutu Sese Seko on the deteriorating security in the eastern Zaire camps.

Aid agencies estimate 28,000 troops of the defeated Rwandan army crossed into eastern Zaire with nearly a million refugees in July, some were disarmed but many retained and hid weapons.

Thousands of troops who crossed without families sleep in a camp five kilometres northwest of Mugunga but during the day walk to the civilian camp, which has an estimated 200,000 residents.

The soldiers direct the flow of aid agency vehicles, drink locally brewed banana beer, smoke marijuana and help themselves to food distributed to refugees by international agencies.

The U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees has repeatedly asked Zairean authorities to isolate the soldiers in a camp separate from civilians but Zairean officers say the army in the area does not have the manpower for such a dangerous operation.

Aid officials say they are

not supposed to supply food to soldiers but it is impossible to them stop taking it, especially when most Mugunga residents support the exiled Hutu government.

There is little evidence in Mugunga of the simmering tension between civilians and the troops and militiamen loyal to the toppled government in other camps around the town of Goma.

"These soldiers are my people," said Jean-Marie, who said he was a gardener from the northern Rwandan town of Byumba. "I don't care what is happening over there (in Rwanda). As long as they (soldiers and civilians) are here, I am at home."

A U.N. military spokesman told reporters Thursday that it was possible U.N. troops would be sent into the camps to separate the Rwandan soldiers and militiamen from the civilians.

Such a move would help camps where intimidating militiamen and soldiers discourage refugees from returning to Rwanda but would have little effect in Mugunga where the population appears united.

In the Hague, an international conference on rebuilding Rwanda after three months of ethnic carnage opened Friday with the European Union (EU) pledging to punish those responsible for genocide.



Young Rwandan refugees sing in a shack above the Katala camp (AFP photo)

NATO gives U.N. peacekeepers extra air cover

SARAJEVO (R) — NATO has agreed to extend the scope of its air cover for U.N. peacekeepers in Bosnia and is under pressure to take tougher action against Bosnian Serbs, informed sources said Friday.

The moves followed attacks on the northwest Muslim enclave of Bihac and increasing violations of weapons exclusion zones by Serbs opposed to an international peace plan.

The U.N. said NATO had agreed to give air support to U.N. peacekeepers in Bihac if they were attacked again from rebel Serb territory in neighbouring Croatia.

French U.N. troops are deployed in the enclave where Bihac town has been declared a safe haven by the United Nations.

U.N. commanders can already call up NATO support when their men are endangered in Bosnia but the rules of engagement have not previously included Croatia.

Bosnian and Croatian serb forces who surround the Bihac pocket have fought its Muslim defenders this month though NATO has not so far been asked to intervene.

Pressure for a tougher line against the Bosnian Serbs was expected from the United States and NATO ambassadors meeting in Brussels, diplomatic sources said.

NATO hawks worry that the alliance's credibility is

suffering from the lack of reaction to Serb violations of weapons exclusion zones which have increased since the peace plan was expected.

U.N. peacekeepers have the power to call for retaliatory NATO air strikes but have not done so far fear of inciting Bosnian Serb retaliation against their forces on the ground.

Diplomats said NATO countries were divided on how to react to the Serb challenge.

The rift reflected wider divisions between the United States and its allies over how to deal with the Serbs rejection of a big power peace plan to divide Bosnia between Serbs and a federation of Muslims and Croats.

Washington will press the U.N. to lift its arms embargo on the Muslim-led Bosnian government unless the Serbs accept the plan by Oct. 15.

But it has failed to gain the support of other authors of the peace plan, including Russia, Britain and France, who have threatened to withdraw their peacekeeping troops from Bosnia if the embargo is lifted.

In reality, Western countries including the United States appear to have decided to conciliate the Serbs.

Plans for muscular Western monitoring of Yugoslavia's military blockade in the Bosnian Serbs have been quietly shelved.

A token force of civilian volunteers has been sent instead to work under Yugoslav police and customs supervision with the declared mission of ensuring that only humanitarian aid crosses the border.

The West is under strong Russian pressure to reward Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic for the blockade by the swift easing of U.N. sanctions, even without effective border monitoring.

Mr. Milosevic, one of the main architects of the 29-month war, has described the peace plan as a fair solution for the Bosnian Serbs, who control 70 per cent of Bosnia and will get half of the former Yugoslav republic under the plan. They represent only 30 per cent of the population.

U.N. fuel stocks in Sarajevo have plunged because of a Bosnian Serb refusal to allow resupply convoys through, a U.N. spokesman said Friday, as the Bosnian capital was without water, gas or electricity for the first time since December.

A convoy of 260 tonnes of fuel is blocked in Kiseljak, some 30 kilometres (18 miles) west of Sarajevo, as a result of a two-month Serb ban on fuel convoys into the city.

The two main lines into the city have been down since late Wednesday, and the lack of power has put out of action the Bacevo water pumping station, which supplies

Sarajevo with 80 per cent of its water.

U.N. Protection Force (UNPROFOR) spokeswoman Claire Grimes said it was "much too early to speculate" whether the supply problems were linked to a threat by Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic to tighten the stranglehold on Muslim enclaves if Belgrade imposed economic sanctions against the rebel Serbs in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

In Sarajevo, UNPROFOR spokesman Bernard Labar-souque said fuel supplies were at a "very low level" as "convoys are getting through from Kiseljak to Sarajevo because the Serbs are refusing their permission to pass."

Low level was usually defined as enough fuel for 20 days normal operations. Lieutenant Colonel Labar-souque said.

UNPROFOR announced it was halving the fuel ration given to the international press corps here because of the shortages.

Meanwhile William Eagle-ton, the U.N. coordinator for the restoration of essential services in Sarajevo, had contacted the Serbs over the utilities situation, Ms. Grimes said.

"He has asked them to look into it. He called (Bosnian Serb authorities in) Pale to ask them that if there was some-one tampering with the gas then it should cease," she said.

Clinton crosses line on commitment to Haiti invasion

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States is poised to send an "overwhelming force" into Haiti to oust its defiant military leaders in an action that could be over in a matter of hours, Defence Secretary William Perry said Friday.

Mr. Perry was speaking hours after President Bill Clinton told Americans that he was committed to use force if the leaders defy an ultimatum to permit a return of democracy in their impoverished Caribbean country.

In his televised speech Thursday night Mr. Clinton warned the junta led by Lieutenant Raoul Cedras: "Your time is up. Leave now or we will force you from power."

Mr. Perry told NBC News: "The military aspect would be over in a matter of hours, at most a day or two." As he spoke, two aircraft carriers prepared to join an armada of warships already waiting in the waters off Haiti.

Military officials have said everything would be ready for an invasion by Saturday or Sunday. Mr. Perry said the U.S. forces were on a high state of alert and "they could hold that edge for some days."

Mr. Perry conceded that there would probably be American casualties if the invasion goes ahead but the overwhelming size of the force, expected to include about 20,000 troops, was intended to minimise casualties on both sides.

Mr. Clinton's firm, unequivocal language in his address left no room to believe he might be bluffing, even though his policy is unpopular, and a military debate could further undermine his shaky presidency.

"In Haiti we have a case in which what is right is clear. The country in question is nearby. Our interests are plain, the mission is achievable and limited, and the nations of the world stand with us. We must act," Mr. Clinton said.

A poll conducted by CNN showed evidence of the time-honoured U.S. tradition of rallying around the



U.S. President Bill Clinton sits at his desk following his address to the nation from the Oval Office of the White House (AFP photo)

commander-in-chief in times of crisis. But a majority of those polled said Mr. Clinton should get congressional approval before taking military action.

The feeling in Congress, among both Republicans and Democrats, has been against the invasion. Senator John McCain, an Arizona Republican and a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, feared a long-term U.S. involvement.

"There is no exit strategy that I see that is viable ... it means a long-term commitment of American troops," Sen. McCain said.

No deadline for an invasion has been announced and officials still left the door open a crack for a possible peaceful end.

The U.S. ambassador in Port-au-Prince, William Swing, said in an interview with NBC News he would be trying to persuade the leaders to leave "up to the last minute." He added: "We live in a world of miracles. Let's hope one will happen here, but the chances are dwindling by the day."

If the attack starts, defence officials said elite special forces would spearhead a lightning nighttime invasion followed closely by helicopter-borne U.S. soldiers and Marines striking a number of targets simultane-

ously.

"We have made pretty clear that the force used here will be overwhelming in order to protect the lives of our people and of innocent civilians in Haiti," said one official. "This will not be a small operation."

Gen. Cedras remained publicly defiant. "We are all ready to fight with the means we have," Gen. Cedras said, threatening resistance that could turn into massacre and civil war.

White House officials said ousted Haitian President Jean-Bertrand Aristide, who is planning a major speech in the next few days, would be going to the White House Friday. It was not immediately clear if he would meet Mr. Clinton, but officials said representatives from countries contributing to the U.S.-led Haiti intervention force would also be there.

In his 16-minute speech Mr. Clinton broke news that might disarm critics of Mr. Aristide. He said Mr. Aristide, who was overthrown in a 1991 coup, has pledged to step down when his term ends in December 1995 and has committed himself to promote reconciliation among all Haitians.

Critics of the president's Haitian policy fear the United States could become mired in a Caribbean quag-

mire if Mr. Aristide, whom they claim is an unpredictable leader with anti-American tendencies, seeks retribution or constitutional change.

The Haitian constitution limits the president to one term.

"President Aristide has told me that he will consider his mission fulfilled — not when he regains office, but when he leaves it to the next democratically elected president of Haiti," Mr. Clinton said.

Senate Republican leader Bob Dole said although Americans want to see Gen. Cedras ousted, Mr. Clinton did not make a convincing case that U.S. blood should be spilled to restore Mr. Aristide.

"If the president cannot make his case to Congress and the American people, the United States should not invade Haiti," Sen. Dole said. His statement suggested that Mr. Clinton's policy will be an issue in the mid-term congressional election campaign.

Haitian military leaders are offering to step down to avoid a U.S.-led invasion of their country, former Jamaican Prime Minister Edward Seaga said Friday.

But one of the leaders vehemently denied they were seeking such a deal.

"It's completely false," Philippe Biamby, the chief of staff to military strongman Gen. Cedras, said.

Mr. Seaga said the junta leaders were offering to step down if there is an agreement not to proceed with the invasion and a promise that there would be no reprisal against some 600 of their close associates.

"There is intended to be a 11th hour initiative much of which will contain aspects of the proposal put forward by the Haitian military leaders," said Mr. Seaga, who is acting as an intermediary between the de facto regime and Washington.

Mr. Seaga said he did not know whether Washington would accept the deal, but he noted that President Clinton's final notice to the junta Thursday suggested there would be no negotiations.

Chechen envoy in Moscow as Dudayev foes unite

MOSCOW (AFP) — Dzhokhar Dudayev, the embattled leader of Chechnya, sent a personal envoy to Moscow Friday to discuss a political deal with Russia, the Interfax News Agency said, as his foes in the breakaway Caucasus republic joined forces to oust him.

An advisor to Mr. Dudayev who asked not to be named told Interfax he had been sent "to coordinate the signing of a bilateral accord on a confederative basis" with authorities in Moscow.

He gave no details on who he would meet and what would be discussed but suggested that a compromise agreement was in the works that could bring the rebel republic at least partially back under Moscow's control.

The aide said specifically the accord would differ from those signed in the past between the federal government and various regions of the country seeking more autonomy in that it "would not affect the sovereign status" of Chechnya.

A spokesman for the Russian government said he could not confirm the Interfax report and was aware of

no planned meetings between Russian and Chechen officials in Moscow.

If confirmed, the dispatch of the Chechen envoy would mark the first serious effort by Mr. Dudayev to forge a compromise with the federal government from which he unilaterally declared Chechnya independent in October 1991.

Various efforts by the Kremlin to bring the rebel republic to heel, notably an aborted troop deployment in 1992, an economic blockade and support for opposition groups, have so far failed.

The arrival of the special Chechen envoy in Moscow came a day after Mr. Dudayev declared martial law and extended a curfew throughout the republic amid heightened tension between his supporters and opponents.

Aslan Maskhadov, the Chechen chief of staff, told Interfax that the martial law measures included reinforced protection of vital enterprises as well as limiting circulation of road vehicles in the republic.

Gen. Maskhadov said Chechen army "reservists"

had been ordered to report to barracks under a standing general mobilisation order approved by Mr. Dudayev last month but admitted that so far few had done so.

Local journalists in the Chechen capital, Grozny, and ITAR-TASS news agency reported separately that most residents of the republic — including the majority of cabinet ministers — were not aware of the martial law order.

TASS attributed this to the poor circulation of newspapers and difficulties with television broadcasting following a blast at the main television transmitter Thursday that damaged the facility.

Meanwhile Russian Khasbulatov, the former Russian parliament speaker and a native Chechen who now leads a key opposition group, said he and the leadership of a Moscow-backed opposition "Provisional Council" planned to join forces.

Speaking on his own television channel set up at his headquarters in the town of Tolstoy-Yurt just north of Grozny, Mr. Khasbulatov appealed to the population to side with Mr. Dudayev's

opponents.

He and Umar Avturkhanov, leader of the Provisional Council, said in a joint statement they had reached "points of understanding" and announced that henceforth they would coordinate their actions. ITAR-TASS said.

"The day is not far off when the Chechen people will triumph and will be able to choose their own leaders," the report quoted Mr. Avturkhanov as saying.

Mr. Khasbulatov described the armed groups loyal to the Provisional Council as "government troops" and said they had the right to use methods of force to remove Mr. Dudayev from power.

The Chechen government Friday denied that it had instituted martial law over the embattled breakaway republic and that it had sent an envoy to Moscow for political discussions with Russia.

"There is no martial law," a spokesman for Mr. Dudayev said. "There is a project for the establishment of martial law that was being studied Thursday by the government. But for the moment it is only a project."

Power-sharing deal may conclude Angola peace talks

LUSAKA (R) — Angola's government, mired in civil war, may offer UNITA rebel leader Jonas Savimbi the post of deputy president in a power-sharing deal which could be signed this month, diplomats said Friday.

"The Angolan government has already started to draft legislation for the creation of two vice presidential posts. One of these will go to Jonas Savimbi and the other to the (ruling) MPLA," a diplomat monitoring peace talks in Lusaka told Reuters.

Another diplomat said Mr. Savimbi's status had been one of the major issues delaying the end of the Angolan conflict.

"One cannot separate Savimbi from UNITA. The two have to be treated as one and any concessions have to accommodate specifically the UNITA leader," he said.

Neither the Angolan government delegation nor the UNITA team attending the Lusaka peace talks would comment on the matter.

Angola's longest-running civil war has been raging since Angola gained independence from Portugal in 1975.

A 1991 peace agreement between UNITA (National Union for the Total Independence of Angola) and the MPLA (Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola) broke down after UNITA rejected its defeat in U.N.-supervised elections in 1992.

The ruling party won the parliamentary vote in the October 1992 election, but narrowly missed the overall majority needed in the presidential poll, necessitating a run-off election between President Jose Eduardo Dos Santos for the MPLA and Mr. Savimbi.

Under the proposed peace package Mr. Dos Santos would remain president.

Western diplomats said it had been necessary to create the two posts of deputy president to allow the Luanda government the flexibility of accommodating Mr. Savimbi.

Such an arrangement will be easier for President Dos Santos to sell because he also needs the backing of his people at home, one diplomat said.

Another diplomat said UNITA would first have to take up its 70 National Assembly posts it obtained in the disputed election, as agreed in the Lusaka peace talks, to change legislation to allow creation of the two posts of deputy president.

Diplomats said an agreement to end the Angolan war was likely to be signed this month.

One said the talks were "tying up loose ends."

U.N. special envoy James Jonah expressed optimism Thursday, saying there had been substantial progress in the talks which started in the Zambian capital last November.

The U.N. has been mandated to supervise and verify all military activities linked to a military agreement which includes the demobilisation of UNITA forces, formation of a new national army and police force, and the holding of a second round of presidential elections.

Fighting continues despite reported progress at the negotiating table.

UNITA said Wednesday that hundreds of people were killed when government planes bombed two villages in the central highlands Tuesday, destroying them completely.

A government journalist evacuated from the besieged town of Cuito last week said the inhabitants had been eating dogs and tree bark. He said at least 30 civilians were dying daily from starvation and disease.

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Jordan Times advertising department.

Not so convincing

U.S. PRESIDENT Bill Clinton's speech to the American people Thursday may have won him his people's support for the imminent U.S.-led invasion of Haiti but left him still with some obstacles to clear on the U.S. Congress front. Legislatures in Washington continue to call on the chief executive to seek congressional approval for his decision to go ahead with military intervention in the Caribbean country. There are still many sceptics in Washington about the rationale behind a verdict in favour of an armed intervention to remove General Raoul Cedras's government and reinstall ousted President Jean-Bertrand Aristide, whom the military overthrew in a bloody coup in September of 1991.

President Clinton's case is rather simple and straightforward: Bad tyranny and gross human rights violations in Port-Au-Prince and restore democracy and respect of basic human rights. The one particular shortcoming of this noble objective lies in the fact that there are many other countries where democracy does not exist and the human rights situation is abysmal. There are countless states in the world, many important U.S. allies, where democracy is not heard of and oppression and violation of human rights is the norm rather than the exception. The targeting of Haiti for starting the campaign against undemocratic rule would be justified as long as this campaign is immediately pursued in other parts of the world. As long as Haiti is the beginning and not the end, then there could be greater appreciation of what the U.S. is trying to accomplish in the Caribbean.

On another front, while Washington's intention to use force in Haiti appears to command general Western support, it lacks parallel sympathy especially from Latin American and Third World countries. It would seem proper, therefore, to present the U.S. case to the U.N. General Assembly when it convenes later this month with a view to gauging the extent of international support, especially from the Latin American continent. We cannot call the impending invasion of Haiti a multinational effort in its sense of dimension as long as the majority of the number of nations is not part of the supreme decision to take military action against an admittedly oppressive regime. There is every reason to involve the rest of mankind in this solemn and important step since it may be repeated elsewhere in other regions of the world.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

A COLUMNIST in Al Ra'i daily demanded that Central Bank governor Mohammad Saeed Nabulsi declare to the public the facts about the flight of foreign currency from Jordan and the way in which the funds were smuggled out of the country. Fares Masarweh said that the Central Bank had announced the flight of \$300 million since the start of 1994 and that most of the amount has now returned to the country, but the public have the right to know how that was possible and have the right to put on trial those who abused their authority and allowed the funds to disappear. It is not enough for the public to hear Dr. Nabulsi announcing that the Kingdom has come out triumphant from this battle with the dollar, was politically motivated, and he is required to be honest and suffered the defeat, said the writer. This is a national interest and the Central Bank has a duty to be honest and transparent. He added that the public should have confidence in the Central Bank and its governor, who he described as an honest man and would maintain his credibility by being with the public.

THE GOVERNMENT is to be held responsible for the sharp decline in the rate of share prices at the Amman Financial Market and the low rate of trading, said Mohammad Daoud, a columnist in Al Dustour. The retreat in the share prices has had its severe impact on the investment process and caused heavy losses to the share holders because the finance minister has failed to date to declare openly that no tax is being contemplated on profits made from the trading of shares, charged the writer. Rumours that new taxes will be levied on profits made from the trading of shares led to the fall of share prices, said the writer. The government ought to put an end to rumours and openly declare whether it is really contemplating imposing taxes on these profits made by individuals or companies so that the trading in shares can resume and the investors can return to the market and strengthen the economy, said the writer.

Jordanian Perspective

By Dr. Musa Keilan

Towards clearing the clouds in Arab sky

THE SIGNS of thaw that have appeared in Jordan's relations with Saudi Arabia and Kuwait are welcome developments that should not have waited this long. Without going into the background for the strain in ties in the first place — it will not be in the interests of anyone to dig open old graves — we in Jordan are more than happy to see our relations with our Arab brethren in the Gulf improving. We would like to see those developments as the natural course of events in Arab history and a process of normalising abnormal things.

Indeed, strain in inter-Arab ties is an abnormality. Historically, the Arab World has achieved more by standing united than by adopting individualistic positions, whether on the Maghreb side or on the Mashreq side or a combination of the two inseparable parts of the Arab Homeland.

The cordiality that was shown to a Jordanian diplomatic representative while paying the first post-Gulf crisis visit to Kuwait and Saudi Arabia's acceptance of the nomination of a new Jordanian ambassador to Riyadh and agreement to appoint a new Saudi envoy to Amman are indeed the strongest yet signs of Kuwaiti and Saudi interest in responding positively to Jordan's quest to settle inter-Arab differences. For one thing, these moves open the door further for a serious dialogue on what has been plaguing our relations with a view to removing those nuances once and for all.

A lot of water has flown under the Arab bridge in the past four years during which Arab differences played a

significant part in shaping the future of Arabs, particularly the Middle East peace process that was launched in Madrid a few months after the end of the Gulf war. One of the catastrophes that befell the Arab World. Needless to say, had the Arab World been united at the outset of the peace process, then probably we would have seen a better shape of the entire effort to end four decades of conflict and bloodshed in the region in a more fair and just manner that would have avoided the schism that is evident in some circles in the move towards peace with Israel.

Of course, the first element in that equation is that Israel would not have been in a position to influence or dominate the course of the peace process as it has managed to achieve on the Palestinian track of the peace negotiations had it not been for the problems that plagued inter-Arab relations and opened the door for Israel to exploit those weaknesses and seek to impose its will and dictate its terms to the Palestinians.

Within the Jordanian perception of today's situation, it is clear that the Washington Declaration had something to do with the improvement in ties with Saudi Arabia and Kuwait. For one thing, the declaration proved to the world Jordan's sincere quest and commitment to a peaceful and stable region that would protect everyone's interest and would serve the cause of an uplifting of the standard of living for everyone in an atmosphere of security and stability. Such an objective, lest anyone has forgotten, is not new. It has always been Jordan's endeavour to bring about an atmosphere conducive to serving the interests of

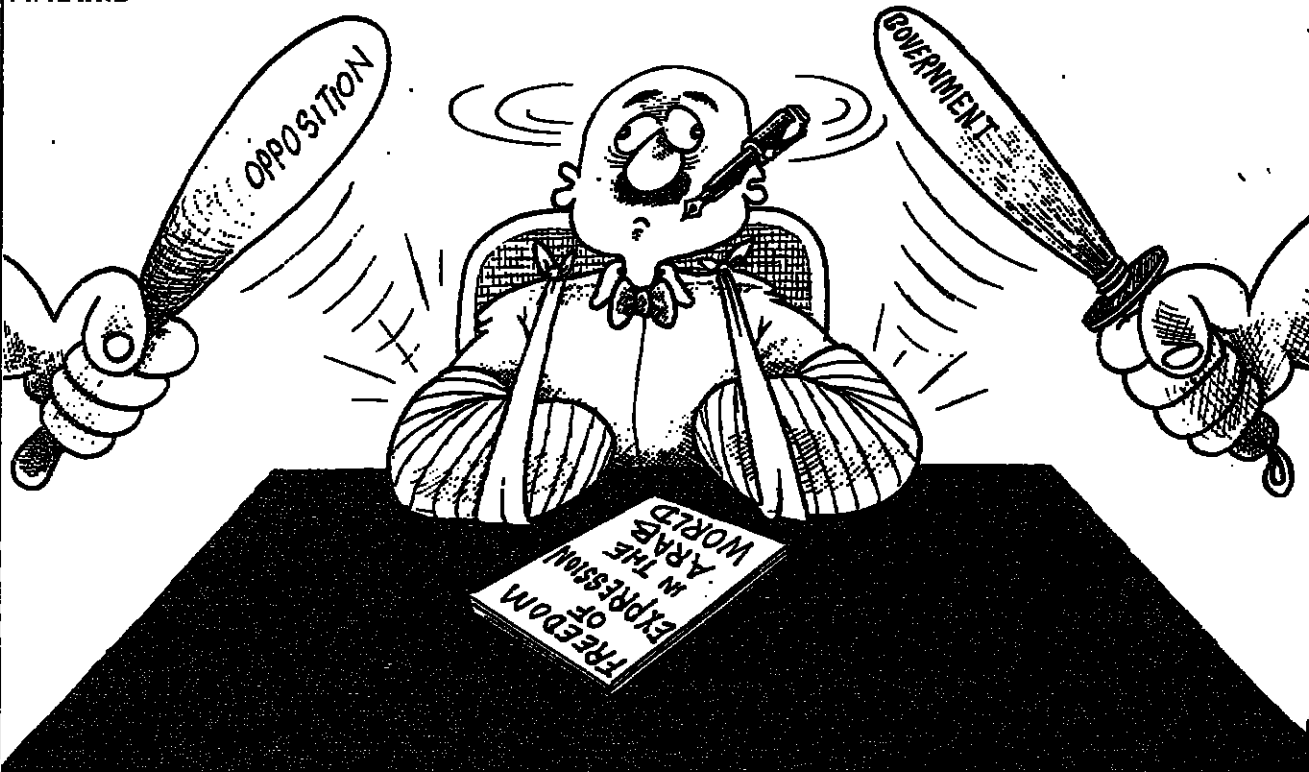
the Arabs in general while ensuring that Arab rights — including those of Jordan — are not sacrificed in the international scene.

From that vantage point, we would like to believe that the positive responses our brothers in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait have shown to our sincere desire for a definite improvement in relations bode well for the restoration of pan-Arab unity and commitment to common causes.

Those in the Arab World as well as outside who still are sceptical over Jordan's approach will be well-advised to be reminded that Jordan has made it abundantly clear that its motivations to seek improved relations within the Arab World have more to do with a desire to have abnormalities corrected and things set on a definite course that would serve the Arab interests at large rather than achieve any short-term financial advantages. Jordan has clearly understood and appreciated the very concept of self-reliance and survived some of the worst crises that could befall any country of its size and features.

Hopefully, the forthcoming visit of His Majesty King Hussein to post-crisis Republic of Yemen and the Sultanate of Oman would serve as another major landmark in restoring cordiality and warmth in inter-Arab relations. Beyond that is also the very strong possibility that the course of events in the Arab World would be further influenced by the shaping of a new world order and ensure that the Arabs would have a strong voice and say in determining the elements that should be the pillars for that new world order.

M. KAHIL



Reconciliation: Mandela finds a sound model in Chile

By Charles Krauthammer

WASHINGTON — On the hundredth day of his presidency, Nelson Mandela announced that he would send Parliament legislation establishing a Truth and Reconciliation Commission to deal with human rights abuses of the apartheid era. Mr. Mandela is confronted with the human rights conundrum of the '90s: How the newly liberated deal with the crimes of the past.

It is the issue of our time because, from Eastern Europe to Latin America to Southern Africa, never has so many peoples emerged so suddenly from tyranny. Now they come face to face with the same dilemma: What to do with the past?

One can talk about war crimes trials, as do many human rights preeners in the context of Serbia or Haiti. But such talk is mostly bluff. (At best, they'll catch a few small fish.) Mr. Mandela is no bluffer. Which is why he spoke not of crimes and tribunals but of truth and reconciliation — borrowing precisely the approach taken by the most successful new democracy of the decade, Chile.

In 1990, Chile's democratic government took over from a military dictatorship that had come to power in a violent 1973 coup. Several years of murderous repression had followed that putsch. The military finally handed over power to a democratically elected government. But it had long before decreed itself an amnesty. What were the democrats to do?

They could not sweep crimes of this magnitude under the rug. Yet they could not seek criminal convictions because abrogating the amnesty would have sparked civil unrest and invited another coup and more suffering. So they decided, with a principle wisdom admired and emulated all the way to Pretoria, that between absolute justice and justice lies truth.

They decided to pursue, above all, a full and unimpeachable accounting of the past. Hence, by presidential appointment, the National Commission on Truth and Reconciliation.

The logic of this approach is powerfully elucidated by a commission member, José Zalaquett, in his introduction to the English edition of the commission's report (University of Notre Dame Press, 1993). The dilemma, explains Mr. Zalaquett, is simple. When you defeat human rights violators in war and pulverise them into unconditional surrender, there is no predicament. You de-Nazify. You hold war crimes trials. You do what you will within the norms of international law.

But what happens when the surrender is only partial? What happens when the losing side gets to participate in the transition to democracy and is still a

force in the new society?

In Chile, the old dictatorship gave way, but it still controls the army. In South Africa, the white minority is one-eighth of the population, part of the government, economically dominant and needed for the rebuilding of the country. Pursuing full justice in these conditions is impossible without risking chaos and bloodshed. So, instead, one seeks the possible and the honourable: truth.

The Chilean commission investigated in excruciating detail every single "disappearance," every murder, every assassination (including those by anti-government guerrillas). It ranged up and down the country taking testimony from thousands of witnesses. The result is a methodical catalogue of horrors.

The commission was not a tribunal, however. It named the victims but not the perpetrators. It did not presume to attribute guilt to individuals.

Why? Because "to name culprits who had not defended themselves and were not obliged to do so would have been the moral equivalent of convicting someone without due process," says Mr. Zalaquett. "This would have been in contradiction with the spirit, if not the letter, of the rule of law and human rights principles."

The release of the truth commission's findings — by President Patricio Aylwin in a televised address — had an electric effect on Chile. To the victims, particularly the "disappeared," it gave identity, a resurrection in dignity in the national consciousness. To the victims' families it gave the balm of knowledge and the repose that comes from a final accounting.

Perhaps most important, it gave the country a catharsis. Its findings were accepted by all parties of all political stripes. Its thousand pages were signed by all eight politically disparate members of the commission without a note of dissent. It leaves no quarter for revisionists. It established a benchmark of consensus that is a legacy for the future.

Not a complete victory for justice — in such circumstances there could be no such a victory — but triumph enough. And executed with such judiciousness and scruple that the new South Africa has chosen the Chileans' model to deal with the crimes of apartheid.

A wise choice. Mr. Mandela has taken as his model people who take the principles of human rights so seriously that they apply them even to themselves. People who know the dangers of fanaticism; who have made their first duty after liberation not vengeance and retribution but truth and social peace.

Washington Post.

THE WEEK IN PRINT

One year after Oslo, Palestinians have no hopes fulfilled

Reviewed by Elia Nasrallah

THE LOCAL Arabic daily newspapers last week gave prominence to the peace process, inter-Arab affairs and domestic issues.

Commenting on the lapse of one year since the signing of the Oslo deal between the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and Israel on Sept. 13, 1993, a columnist in Al Ra'i daily said that the agreement was now at crossroads because nothing has taken place to give real hope to the Palestinians that their lands will see the end of occupation. No elections took place, no infrastructure has been built and no real power has come to the Palestine National Authority (PNA), which is laden with additional burdens as a result of the Oslo deal one year on, said Sultan Al Hattab.

One year after the signing of the Oslo agreement, the Palestine National Authority and the PLO leadership is unable to control matters in the self-rule areas and unable to carry out the projects they promised the masses, said Samir Nayfeh in Al Dustour. The writer blamed Israel for laying obstacles in the path of the PLO leadership and the Western donors who failed to provide the Palestine National Authority with the promised means to carry out its task.

Judging from the way the peace process has been going on and the attitudes of the Israeli government, one can say that the coming settlement would not be a real peace acceptable to future generations, said Taher Al Adwan, a columnist in Al Dustour. The writer

said that the coming settlement would not ensure the restoration of all the rights of the Arab people, especially in Jerusalem simply because the Arabs are weak and Israel is strong, possessing 200 nuclear heads and holding the water resources and a strong military power. The coming settlement would not be just and durable, said the writer because the Arabs would not regain their lawful rights.

Mahmoud Rimawi, a columnist in Al Ra'i, said the Oslo deal has failed to meet the minimum requirements of the aspired peace.

So far, there have been no indications from the Rabin government that Israel would help the Palestinians take control of their own affairs. On the contrary, he said, what is happening is just the opposite. Neither did Israel redeploy its forces in the other parts of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip as a good gesture of its intentions to allow the Palestinians control their future destiny, added the writer. Therefore, he said the five years transitional period, provided for in the Oslo deal, could turn out to be an endless transitional period with no hope for the Palestinians to acquire independence.

One year after Oslo, one finds smiles disappearing from the faces of the optimistic, said Issa Shueibi, a columnist in Al Dustour. Those who rejected over the signing of the deal are now filled with bitterness as they watch injustice continuing and occupation per-

petuated, said the writer. However, he said, the Palestine National Authority and the PLO leadership are in dire need of support from the Arab states and the Western donor nations so that they can hold the promised elections and establish the infrastructure for a Palestinian state.

Reflecting on the Arab League Council meeting in Cairo, Al Ra'i daily said that the Arab League proved to be still alive and kicking despite the failures of the past that caused its semi-demise. The paper said that the Arab ministers taking part in the meetings are discussing issues of paramount importance like the status of Jerusalem and support for the Palestinians. It is hoped, said the paper, that the ministers would reach decisions that would stimulate collective Arab action vis-a-vis the outstanding issues the safeguard the nation's interests.

Al Dustour daily countered this idea by saying that few Arab people are really interested in the Arab League and its meetings. Few Arabs believe that the Arab League can take important decisions, let alone implement them, as the Arab League Council has long been issuing statements that were never implemented for the benefit of the Arab states, said the daily. It said that the secretary should have a single item on the ministers agenda, calling for the Arabs to end their differences before embarking on any other discussions.

Taher Al Adwan deplored the release of the leaders of the Islamists in Algeria as an important step towards easing the situation in the country. The release is a brave step which aimed at stimulating the dialogue between the various political powers, said the writer. He said that the decision taken by the Islamists leadership and the Algerian government to open the dialogue could face some resistance on the part of the extremists but the two sides ought to give this step a chance which could lead to an end of violence in the near future.

Ahmad Dabbas, a columnist in Sawt Al Shaab, tackled the mass food poisoning that occurred last week in Salt and accused the food industries in Jordan of lacking the very basic elements of hygiene and health requirements that can ensure safe food. The writer said that the health authorities are also to blame for failing to carry out inspection visits to restaurants, allowing bad food to be served to the customers. The health authorities normally suffice themselves with announcing the seizure of contaminated food and destroying it but no deterrent action is normally taken against the violators, the writer added.

Referring to festive firing causing the death of innocent people, Ahmad Misleh, a columnist in Al Ra'i, assailed those "who have no regard to other people's feelings and lives." Festive firing is a crime which should be fought by the nation at large, he demanded.

Features
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By Paul Majumdar

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British book prize mired in controversy

By Paul Majendie
Reuters

LONDON — Judge in literary bust-up, famous author snubbed, obscure novelist hailed — there is nothing like a good row to boost Britain's top literary prize and this year is no exception.

First, one of the judges wading through 150 entrants for the Booker Prize omitted to tell his fellow adjudicators that his wife was one of the contestants.

The chairman of the panel soon declared that most modern novels weren't funny or entertaining enough, prompting a previous chairwoman to call him an out-of-touch "old fogey."

Then came the publicists' dream — a woman turned down by every publisher in Britain made the shortlist with a fable about religious intolerance that she published herself.

The bookmakers gave the pot another stir by making a novel about unrequited homosexual love the 6-4 favourite to win the 20,000 pound Booker Prize on Oct. 11.

In a quarter of a century, the prize has boasted some distinguished winners in Salman Rushdie, Kingsley Amis and Iris Murdoch. But leading literary lights like Graham Greene and Doris Lessing have been spurned.

Pens are dipped in vitriol every year when the judges come up with a shortlist of six from what are regarded as the year's best novels by writers from 50 Commonwealth countries and Ireland.

Critics complain the prize is consistently being given to second-rate novels by obscure writers.

Dublin teacher Roddy Doyle certainly proved the doubters wrong last year. His "Paddy Clarke Ha Ha Ha" won both literary and popular acclaim, topping the best-seller list for months and selling more than 300,000 copies.

Watching the bitchy rows in the literary establishment, leading commentator A.N. Wilson thinks it is all great fun.

"It's chaotic, it's idiotic but I still say hooray for the Booker Prize," he said of the 1994 controversy-strewn choices.

Former judge Mark Lawson agreed, writing in the Independent: "never mind

the plot, enjoy the arguments."

Mocking the selection process, he said every year could be relied on to produce the relevant headlines — judges squabble, inclusion dispute, exclusion furore, category spat.

This year, judge and literary critic James Wood was accused of failing to make clear that his wife, Claire Messud was in the running for the prize.

Professor John Bayley, the 69-year-old panel chairman, confessed to being bored by many of the entries: "New fiction is at best ambitious and at worst pretentious."

But Jill Paton Walsh made the biggest headlines when she revealed she had published "Knowledge of Angels" herself — and made the shortlist.

She was jubilant: "I shall be able to write what the hell I like for my next book and it feels wonderful."

Writer and broadcaster Julia Neuberger, one of the judges who put her on the shortlist, agreed: "This is not a good reflection on the publishers in this country."

Alan Hollinghurst, whose explicit gay novel "The Swimming Pool Library" won many literary plaudits, was made favourite for the prize for his "The Folding Star" about an English teacher's infatuation for one of his pupils.

Scottish and Commonwealth writers offer tough competition.

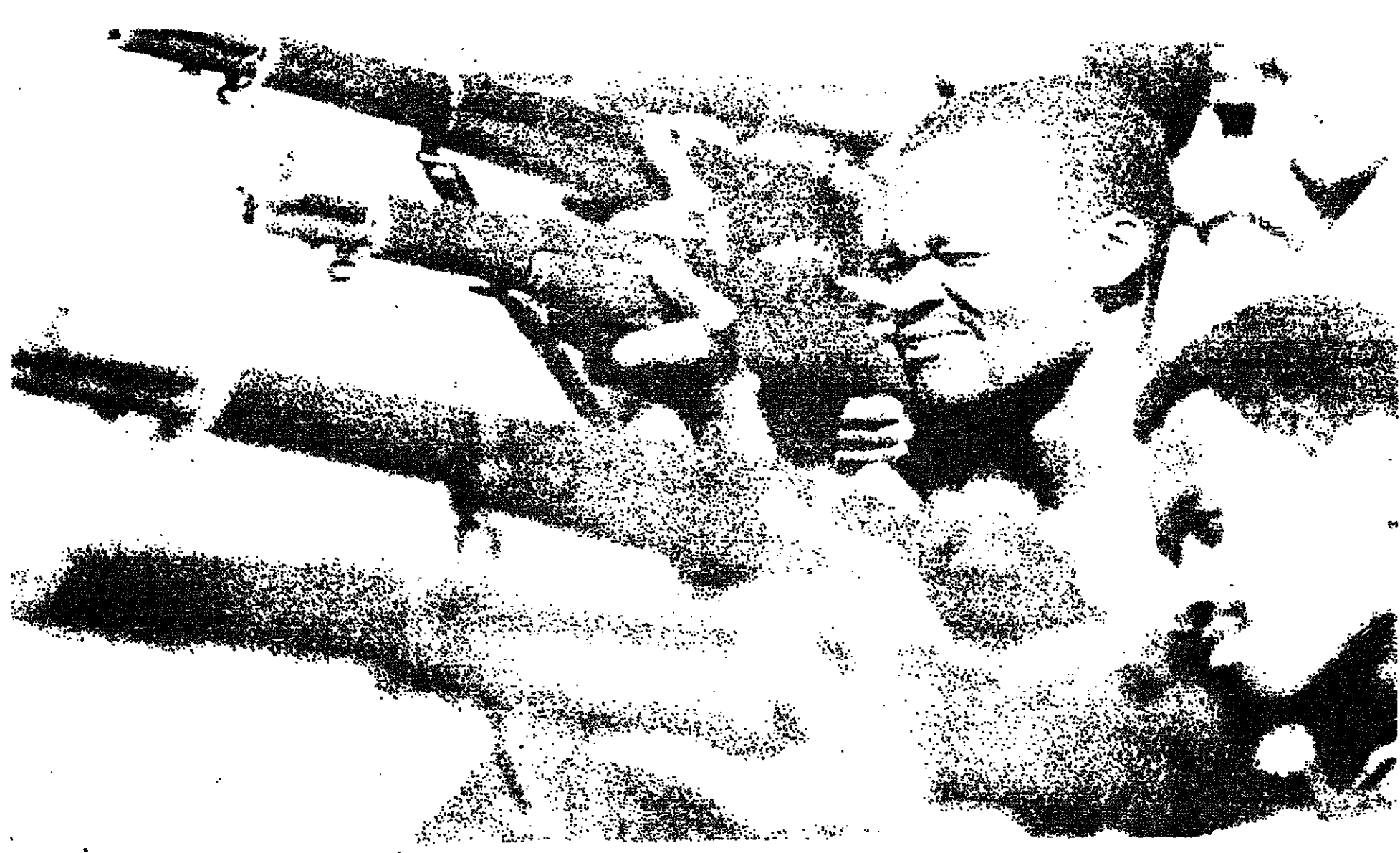
In the year when two of the judges are Scots, two Scottish writers — James Kelman and George Mackay Brown — make the shortlist.

Sri Lankan-born Romesh Gunesekera secured a place on it with his first novel "Reef," about an 11-year-old boy working as a houseboy for a marine biologist.

Tanzanian-born Abdulrazak Gurnah completes the field with "Paradise," the story of an African boy's coming of age.

The shortlist prompted A.N. Wilson to recall the old joke: "The only way to get on the Booker shortlist is to be a Maori or an Indian."

France has its prix goncourt which definitively proclaims the best book of the year for French readers. Wilson prefers all the brouhaha of the Booker: "It has become a much more chaotic, much jollier institution than that."



Haitian recruits learn to shoot with M1 rifles 14 Sept. at the Champ Mars central square in Port Au Prince. Officials said preparations for a U.S.-led invasion of up to 20,000 troops would be complete within a week (AFP photo)

Haiti: A nation besieged, though no troops have landed

By Lisa M. Hamm
The Associated Press

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti — No troops have landed, but many feel the threatened U.S.-led invasion of Haiti has already begun.

Held hostage by the standoff between the international community and the intransigent military that overthrew President Jean-Bertrand Aristide three years ago, this impoverished Caribbean country has lost control of its destiny.

"The intervention has already taken place. They just haven't begun to shoot at people yet," Port-Au-Prince Mayor Evans Paul told the Associated Press.

"Our city is besieged, and the besieger has allowed our leaders no way out," said Carl Denis, a

senior aide to the de facto government installed by the army in May. "We have no option but resistance."

National sovereignty, which the ruling army claims to be defending in its standoff with the United States, has been reduced to nothing since the coup because the international community has largely controlled Haiti, Mr. Paul said. The country has become economically and politically isolated.

A series of trade embargoes aimed at pressuring the army to leave have brought the economy to its knees, devastating what already is the poorest country in the Western hemisphere.

Those who depend on monetary gifts from relatives in the United States are limited to \$50 a month. More affluent Haitians with

U.S. bank accounts can't get at their money, which was frozen in May.

Psychological warfare has been jacked up a few notches in recent weeks as Washington has intensified warnings to the military to get out and has allowed several warships to move ominously close to Haitian territory.

The White House said that military action could come "very soon."

In the northern port of Cap-Haitien last month, a warship drew a crowd of anti-invasion protesters to the pier. Warships were sighted along the coast north of Port-Au-Prince. On Sunday, a warship and two patrol boats moved within two miles of shore, U.S. flags waving as several helicopters zipped around. An unidentified airplane flew over Port-Au-Prince

on Monday night.

"This was a very strong sign to the civilian and the military authorities of our determination to see this resolved as quickly as possible," U.S. embassy spokesman Stanley Schragar said. "The strong probability (of an invasion) increases with each day the military remains in power."

Mr. Schragar said U.S. planes soon would drop creole-language leaflets on Port-Au-Prince, a new chapter of psychological warfare aimed at enlisting the support of the Haitian people.

In a news briefing Tuesday, Mr. Schragar recommended that journalists who plan to cover the intervention arrive as soon as possible since it is unknown what the Haitian government's reaction will be as time wears on.

At this point, even if the military high command wanted to leave, they would have no way out and nowhere to go, Mr. Denis said.

Haiti is surrounded by 15 U.S. warships, and Pentagon officials are sending in two aircraft carriers to join them.

Along the 390-kilometre land border with the Dominican Republic, 2,000 Dominican soldiers are enforcing the U.N. trade sanctions. Argentina, Canada and the United States have sent the first 50 observers for a multinational group that eventually will include 88 monitors and 50 U.S. soldiers.

An editorial in The Nation, a Haitian ultranationalist biweekly, accused President Clinton of creating a "Warsaw ghetto" in Haiti. Gerard Bissainthe, a

hardline former minister of information, was referring to the walled-in community where Polish Jews were forced to live before they were sent to concentration camps during World War II.

Mr. Aristide "is the only example in history of a chief of state who has asked foreigners to crush his people in order to put the country under control," Mr. Bissainthe said.

Mr. Aristide, speaking from exile in Washington, on Voice of America's Creole-language service Monday, told the Haitian people: "I gave the green light for this operation," by endorsing the July U.N. resolution that approved a U.S.-led force in Haiti.

"When I return, the guns of those who shoot at the people will be silent," Mr. Aristide said.

Political veteran tipped to head NATO

Reuters

BRUSSELS — Belgian Foreign Minister Willy Claes, tipped to be next secretary-general of NATO, is a political veteran whose diplomatic and persuasive gifts have won him respect both locally and internationally.

Both skills would stand him in good stead to steer the alliance as it continues adjusting to life after the cold war.

A musician who enjoys conducting in his spare time, Claes, has orchestrated Belgium's foreign policy since March 1992.

But he came to prominence internationally last year during Belgium's much-praised six-month stint as president of the European Union (EU).

It was Mr. Claes, a Flemish socialist, who chaired foreign ministers meetings during the presidency and who, with Prime Minister Jean-Luc Dehaene, oversaw the coming into effect of the EU's Maastricht treaty on political and economic union.

As foreign minister, Mr. Claes is committed to the EU's goal of peace and has been especially active in the EU's — inaction over the war in former Yugoslavia.

He also has faced many tricky diplomatic problems, especially in the former Belgian protectorates of Rwanda and Burundi

and in the ex-Belgian colony of Zaire.

A native Dutch-speaker who also speaks fluent French and English, Mr. Claes has a moderate style that has won him trust and respect on both sides of Belgium's language divide.

Often tipped as a potential prime minister because of his diplomatic skills and moderate opinions, Mr. Claes was minister for economic affairs in the last centre-left coalition government and has been deputy prime minister five times.

He has mastered the skills of compromise needed to survive in the complex and fragmented system that has produced 35 governments in Belgium since World War II.

His first cabinet post was as education minister in 1972. He held the economic affairs portfolio several times, with only mixed success in the latter role.

Mr. Claes emerged unscathed from a series of financial scandals to emerge this year which led to the resignation of three top Francophone politicians.

He was economic affairs minister in 1988 when Belgium bought 46 army helicopters from the Italian firm Augusta, a sale which led to a corruption scandal. He consistently denied allegations he was aware of bribery linked to the deal.

Quebec separatists win, but independence elusive

By Anthony Boadle
Reuters

OTTAWA — Separatists won the elections in Quebec Monday night, but analysts said they face an uphill battle to convince French-speaking Quebecers that they should become an independent nation.

The Parti Quebecois (PQ) returns to power for the first time in nine years, planning once again to hold a referendum to ask Quebecers if they want to break away from Canada.

"I'm quite confident that the people of Quebec will tell them to jump in the lake," said Marc Lalonde, a finance minister under former Canadian leader Pierre Trudeau.

Quebec Premier-Elect Jacques Parizeau, a die-hard separatist, told Quebecers at a victory rally that they were on the way to forming their own country.

But while the PQ won 77 of the 125 seats in the provincial legislature, named after France's national assembly, it failed to get the landslide Mr. Parizeau had hoped would drive his independence campaign forward.

Receiving only 44.7 of the total votes cast, just a fraction more than the liberals' 44.3 per cent, Mr. Parizeau will have to stir up separatist sentiment in Quebec to win a majority of the vote in the referendum.

Some Canadians fear Mr. Parizeau is a machiavellian strategist who will do his best to provoke a strong backlash against Quebec in



Daniel Johnson (R), the former Premier of Quebec, and his wife Suzanne Marcl (R) leave their polling station in Montreal Sept. 12 after voting in Quebec's elections. Johnson's Liberal Party lost its legislative

majority to Jacques Parizeau's Parti Quebecois, which favours independence from Canada (AFP photo)

the rest of Canada to fuel his cause.

"The PQ victory will mean turbulence and acrimony and a very difficult 10 months leading to another

referendum," said Montreal novelist Mordecai Richler. "The PQ will try to create animosity with the rest of Canada," he said.

"There is bound to be

rising tensions between Quebec and the federal and other provincial governments," said Mr. Lalonde. "We will have an uneasy year of politics."

The separatists lost a referendum on the same issue in 1980 when they were last in power under Parti Quebecois founder Rene Levesque.

On the surface, they appear to have a better chance now.

Canadians no longer have a charismatic leader in Ottawa of the stature of Pierre Trudeau, a forceful personality who took on Mr. Levesque in the last referendum debate.

Prime Minister Jean Chretien, who will have to take up the challenge of defending Canadian unity, is reviled in Quebec for his strong support of federalism.

Federal ranks are further weakened by the presence of separatists in federal parliament in Ottawa.

The Bloc Quebecois, the federal counterpart of the Parti Quebecois, swept up most Quebec seats in last year's national election to become Canada's official opposition party and will work for independence from within the Canadian parliament.

But opinion polls show that support for separatism has actually declined while the Parti Quebecois's popularity rose, an indication that Quebecers wanted to change government rather than have their province leave Canada.

"Quebec voters have rationalised that there is no danger of separation and they understandably wanted a change after nine years," said Mr. Lalonde.

He believes Canadians should just sit tight during the bumpy months ahead and not make matters worse.

"The strategy for the rest of Canada must be to keep cool and not fall in bear traps," he said.

CFA states accept need for IMF rigour

parliament, said Lebanon was heading for violence.

"There will be a social explosion," Hizbollah's deputy leader Sheikh Naim Kassem told a daily in Beirut. "The daily life said the economic situation was 'getting worse and living conditions are deteriorating.'"

The leftwing Beirut daily As Saafir said the government was ignoring realities and following an "ostrich policy."

Sunni Muslim politician Selim Al Hoss, a former prime minister and a political moderate, said Tuesday the government was causing disaster by failing to keep Mr. Hareiri's early promises of rapid reconstruction and recovery.

one of the participants, who declined to be named, told AFP.

Mr. Kombo late Thursday told a press conference: "We are convinced of the need to meet our commitments to the IMF and World Bank because we have no choice but to readjust our economies."

He said that the members of the West African franc zone, had "undertaken to respect structural adjustment programmes."

Mali's Finance Minister Soudoukou Cisse said that CFA-franc countries had to "develop national production to create the resources required for redistribution and to set the economy towards

Congolese Economy
Minister Clement Mouamba said that the meeting had served mainly as a reminder of cooperation between members and the IMF.

He said: "Even if we harmonise our positions, each country deals with the fund bilaterally."

Since the devaluation of the CFA franc against the French franc, to which it is pegged, six countries in the zone have not fulfilled commitments to the IMF and have placed under observation for six months by the fund which has ceased making payments to them.

100 CFA francs are worth one French franc, or about 530 to the dollar.

Technical View: The Japanese yen fell less than 0.1 per cent versus the U.S. dollar during the week ended Sept. 9. Sentiment is still viewed as neutral. Momentum is deteriorating and can be described as weak. However, the underlying uptrend is still intact and it will require a minimum decline in the yen back through the 101 Y/U.S.\$ area to crack the trend and confirm the action of momentum. Beyond that, major support exists at 106-112. Benchmark resistance exists at 97.20, then below 93.

Fundamental View: Despite a move towards tighter monetary policy by the Fed, the U.S. dollar continues to be weak, particularly against the Japanese yen. In order to view the impact of the collision of large external borrowing requirements by the U.S. coinciding with weak demand for dollar assets by foreign private-sector investors, U.S. trade and current account deficits are expected to remain large this year and next, while U.S. residents seem unlikely to retreat from their new-found enthusiasm for foreign investment, suggesting increasing debits on the capital account as well. But without sharply higher U.S. interest rates, which the administration presumably wishes to avoid, it may be difficult to attract enough foreign capital to prevent the dollar from weakening further. We continue to expect the dollar to reach DM/USD 1.50 and JPY/USD 95 over the next six-to-12 months.

Technical View: The U.S. dollar was generally weak last week as it managed to gain ground against only the Canadian dollar and the Japanese yen. Momentum for the dollar index is generally constructive and has the potential to remain so for much of the rest of the year. Medium term sentiment is also generally constructive.

All of this suggests that the trading range of recent weeks is actually a base in preparation for an upcoming rally. Even if that range is penetrated to the downside, such weakness would not likely be technically confirmed. Nearby resistance exists at 90.50 and 91.75. Benchmark support exists at 86.65 — 87.40.

Fundamental View: The dollar traded during the week in the JFYUSD 98-99 range. Focus shifted briefly during the week from U.S.-Japan trade talks to concerns about U.S. inflation following producer and consumer inflation reports. The inflation message from the two reports was mixed and did the dollar no major harm against the yen. The dollar however continues to show general weakness against the yen. With the U.S. threatening trade sanctions on Japan if progress is not made before a Sept. 30 deadline, the dollar remains vulnerable to capital flight by international investors concerned about a potential trade war.

However, resolution of the trade conflict with Japan should provide no lasting relief to the dollar because large imbalances between trade and capital flows are unlikely to be resolved by trade negotiators. Japan's current account surplus is expected to remain close to \$130 billion this year, which is far greater than the apparent demand by Japanese investors for foreign securities. In the first seven months of this year, Japan's net long-term capital outflow has been a meager \$8 billion, even with a substantial pickup in outflows in recent months.

Despite yen strength, our Tokyo economics unit has recently revised up its forecast for Japanese growth and believes that monetary easing is over. In our view, persistent dollar weakness will be required to keep U.S. assets cheap in yen terms and thereby keep capital flowing from Japan. We maintain our forecast for the yen for each JPY/USD 96 in 12-months time, with the risk being towards more pronounced dollar weakness.

Deutschmark

Fundamental View: The dollar had a mixed week against the DM, trading in the DM 1.53-1.54 range. The dollar initially took a tumble against the DM as a 0.6 per cent rise in producer inflation renewed market fears about U.S. inflation. However, a fairly benign consumer inflation report gave the dollar a small boost. The DM was generally weak in Europe following apprehensions in the market about whether Chancellor Kohl's party would win a majority in the October elections.

In general, dollar weakness against the DM is expected to continue in the coming quarters with real interest rate differentials beginning to move in favour of the DM. Further, the growth differential that was in favour of the U.S. is beginning to narrow. These point to increasing DM strength in the long-run. We look for the dollar to trade at the DM/U.S.D 1.50 level in 12 months.

Technical View: The Deutschmark rallied 1.1 per cent against the U.S. dollar last week, and closed at its highs of the week. Medium term sentiment has been improving and is now characterised as near overbought. Momentum is deteriorating, suggesting that the underlying uptrend that has been in force since February is close to a top.

In that regard, a decline back below 1.59-1.61 DM/U.S.\$ would be required to reverse that trend and confirm the action of momentum. Strong resistance remain at 1.48-1.52. Against the yen, the D-mark remains near the top end of its multi-month trading range. This resistance (at 64.50-66.50), together with deteriorating momentum, suggests that lower prices are likely in coming weeks. The trading range

Pound sterling

Pound sterling

Fundamental View: The British pound gained against the U.S. dollar and the DM following the decision by the Bank of England to raise the minimum lending rate by 50 basis points. The pound picked up 2 cents against the dollar to trade in the U.S./GBP 1.56-57 range. The pound also gained over 2 pennings against the DM to go over DM 2.40 level. The rate hike, whose timing caught the market by surprise, was presumably meant to be a preemptive strike against inflation.

Even though U.K. posted good inflation numbers for August, our estimates suggest that if the economy continues to grow between a 3.0 and 3.5 per cent annual rate, there would be no slack in the economy by the end of 1995 with the potential for inflation. This U.K. rate hike combined with a cut in the German discount rate expected after the October elections should move the U.K.-German interest rate differential in favour of the pound. With the DM expected to strengthen against the U.S., and the pound to strengthen against the DM, we expect the pound will appreciate to 1.60 U.S.\$ in six to twelve months time.

Technical View: The British pound advanced 0.3 per cent versus the U.S. dollar during the week ended Sept. 9. Sentiment is near overbought and the currency continues to fluctuate within its long term trading range. With medium term oscillators having peaked, any nearby currency rally is not likely to be sustainable. Resistance remains at \$1586 U.S.\$/£. First support exists near \$1.51; the lower end of the trading range at \$1.46 is second support. The DM cross remains in its multi-month downtrend. Momentum is bottoming, but is having difficulty actually reversing to the upside. Resistance remains at 2.43-2.45, with support at 2.37-2.38 and 2.32-2.33.

Swiss franc

Fundamental View: The Swiss franc continued to strengthen against both the U.S. dollar and the Deutschemark. Against

FORTE PLC has announced following an Air France board meeting, that its offer for Air France's majority holding in Societe des Hotels Meridien has been selected. Forte has valued 100 per cent of Societes des Hotels Meridien at £230 million (FF1.9 billion).

Societes des Hotels Meridien comprised a chain of 54 first class international hotels in 34 countries in Asia/Pacific, North America, Europe, Middle East and Africa/Indian Ocean.

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Financial Markets

Jordan Times
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U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Currency	New York Close 14/9/94	Hong Kong Close 15/9/94
Sterling Pound	1.5680	1.5636**
Deutsche Mark	1.5417	1.5468
Swiss Franc	1.2812	1.2875
French Franc	5.2735	5.2902**
Japanese Yen	99.20	99.30
European Currency Unit	1.2364	1.2313**

USD Per JSD
* European Opening at 8:00 a.m. GMT
** European Closing at 4:00 p.m. GMT

Interbank Interest Rates
Date: 15/9/1994

Currency	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS
U.S. Dollar	4.62	4.75	5.12	5.68
Sterling Pound	5.25	5.50	5.87	6.81
Deutsche Mark	4.75	4.75	4.93	5.31
Swiss Franc	3.75	3.87	4.12	4.43
French Franc	5.31	5.50	5.81	6.31
Japanese Yen	2.57	2.18	2.31	2.56
European Currency Unit	5.59	5.81	6.15	6.81

Interbank bid rates for amounts exceeding 1 m. Dollars, 1,000,000 or equivalent.

Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin
Date: 15/9/1994

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.6960	0.6980
Sterling Pound	1.0861	1.0935
Deutsche Mark	0.4502	0.4525
Swiss Franc	0.5415	0.5442
French Franc	0.1316	0.1323
Japanese Yen	0.7004	0.7039
Dutch Guilder	0.4014	0.4034
Swedish Krona	0.0443	0.0445
Italian Lira	0.0443	0.0445
Belgian Franc	0.0443	0.0445

Other Currencies
Date: 15/9/1994

Currency	Bid	Offer
Bahraini Dinar	1.8300	1.8450
Lebanese Lira	0.040690	0.041085
Saudi Riyal	0.1853	0.1862
Kuwaiti Dinar	2.3100	2.3450
Qatari Riyal	0.1900	0.1912
Egyptian Pound	0.2000	0.2150
Omani Riyal	1.7860	1.8120
UAE Dirham	0.1588	0.1695
Greek Drachma	0.2800	0.3115
Cypriot Pound	1.3990	1.5000

AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

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ORGANIZED MARKET TRADING ACTIVITY FOR THE PERIOD (10/09/1994 - 14/09/1994)

WEEKLY REPORT

COMPANY'S NAME	TRADING VOLUME	TRADING PRICE	PREV. CLOSING PRICE	OPENING PRICE	CLOSING PRICE
ARAB BANK	94,825	182.000	181.500	181.000	181.000
JORDAN NATIONAL BANK	431,951	2.700	2.700	2.700	2.700
RAJAH EAST INVESTMENT BANK	28,800	1.970	1.970	1.970	1.970
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BANK	72,470	2.875	2.875	2.875	2.875
THE HOUSING BANK	29,184	4.950	4.950	4.950	4.950
JORDAN TRUST BANK	67,354	2.910	2.910	2.910	2.910
JORDAN GULF BANK	67,445	1.110	1.110	1.110	1.110
JORDAN ISLAMIC BANK	230,041	3.740	3.740	3.740	3.740
UNION BANK FOR BANKING & INVESTMENT	13,874	5.100	5.100	5.100	5.100
BANKERS BANK	62,870	3.850	3.850	3.850	3.850
JORDAN INVESTMENT & FINANCE BANK	2,389	4.700	4.700	4.700	4.700
RAJAH TRADING COMPANY/JORDAN	11,330	2.500	2.500	2.500	2.500
ARAB BANK FOR INVESTMENT	319,350	1.650	1.650	1.650	1.650
ARAB TRADING COMPANY/JORDAN	766	1.800	1.800	1.800	1.800
PHILADELPHIA INVESTMENT BANK	15,199	2.000	2.000	2.000	2.000
UNITED INSURANCE	3,750	2.990	2.990	2.990	2.990
JORDANIAN TRADING	4,644	4.350	4.350	4.350	4.350
JORDAN FRANCHISE INSURANCE	2,728	2.620	2.620	2.620	2.620
ARAB LIFE & ACCIDENT INSURANCE	3,390	2.700	2.700	2.700	2.700
THE JORDANIAN AREA INSURANCE	3,400	2.000	2.000	2.000	2.000
JORDANIAN ELECTRIC POWER	103,844	1.680	1.680	1.680	1.680
EMBED ELECTRICITY	4,747	1.040	1.040	1.040	1.040
ARAB INTERNATIONAL HOTELS	60,795	5.450	5.450	5.450	5.450
JORDAN NATIONAL SHIPPING LINES	293,001	3.800	3.800	3.800	3.800
NATIONAL PORTFOLIO SPECIALITIES	19,270	2.700	2.700	2.700	2.700
REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT	2,048	1.200	1.200	1.200	1.200
JORDAN GULF REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT	80,331	0.910	0.910	0.910	0.910
JORDAN INTERNATIONAL TRADING CENTER	4,200	1.200	1.200	1.200	1.200
JORDAN PRESS FOUNDATION / ARAB	89,870	2.100	2.100	2.100	2.100
UNITED ARAB BANK & COMMERCIAL	673,512	2.490	2.490	2.490	2.490
ARAB TRADING FOR INVESTMENT & EDUCATION	58,358	2.710	2.710	2.710	2.710
JORDANIAN SPECIALIZED INVESTMENT HOLDING	3,526	1.370	1.370	1.370	1.370
JORDAN TOWNSHIP & CEMENTS	248	20.500	20.500	20.500	20.500
THE JORDANIAN CONCRETE FACTORY	209,387	2.740	2.740	2.740	2.740
JORDAN FRANCHISE INVESTMENT	60,812	2.490	2.490	2.490	2.490
JORDAN TRADING	3,500	7.500	7.500	7.500	7.500
THE JORDANIAN CONCRETE & AGRICULTURAL	8,430	5.400	5.400	5.400	5.400
THE JORDANIAN MONETARY	94,280	9.000	9.000	9.000	9.000
ARAB PHARMACEUTICAL MANUFACTURING	255,389	6.870	6.870	6.870	6.870
JORDAN CERAMIC INDUSTRIES	22,081	6.000	6.000	6.000	6.000
THE JORDANIAN FIBRE MANUFACTURING	8,711	2.900	2.900	2.900	2.900
THE PUBLIC FIRM	1,808	1.100	1.100	1.100	1.100
ARAB CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES	5,493	17.000	16.250	16.250	16.250
SWISS & MONTAG	8,471	2.650	2.650	2.650	2.650
RAJAH INDUSTRIES	28,484	2.650	2.700	2.650	2.650
DAR AL DANA DEVELOPMENT & INVESTMENT	299,475	14.400	16.200	16.200	16.200
ARAB INVESTMENT & INTERNATIONAL TRADE	28,418	1.100	1.100	1.100	1.100
ARAB ALUMINUM INDUSTRY	89,358	1.920	1.920	1.920	1.920
ARAB PAPER CONVERTING & TRADING	16,418	1.300	1.300	1.300	1.300
NATIONAL STEEL INDUSTRIES	39,422	4.050	4.050	4.050	4.050
INTERNATIONAL PETRO-CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES	19,120	2.300	2.300	2.300	2.300
JORDAN ROPE CABLE CO.	51,486	1.700	1.640	1.640	1.640
ALABDOR INDUSTRIES	14,733	4.890	4.840	4.840	4.840
JORDAN INDUSTRIES & MACHINERY	16,889	0.860	0.850	0.850	0.850
NATIONAL CABLE & WIRE MANUFACTURING	13,870	6.100	5.900	5.900	5.900
JORDAN CABLES-CHEMICALS	1,925	2.570	2.450	2.450	2.450
ARAB CEMENT FOR FARM & CHEMICALS	18,193	2.300	2.300	2.300	2.300
KAMMER INVESTMENT	26,287	2.140	2.100	2.100	2.100
INTERNATIONAL TRADING & CEMENTS	18,407	4.500	4.240	4.240	4.240
UNION CHEMICAL & FERTILIZABLE OIL INDUSTRIES	15,413	2.840	2.800	2.800	2.800
GRAND TOTAL	705,437				

PARALLEL MARKET TRADING ACTIVITY FOR THE PERIOD (10/09/1994 - 14/09/1994)

WEEKLY REPORT

COMPANY'S NAME	TRADING VOLUME	TRADING PRICE	PREV. CLOSING PRICE	OPENING PRICE	CLOSING PRICE
CENTRAL GENERAL TRADING & STORAGE	59,198	0.800	0.800	0.800	0.800
JORDAN TRADING FACILITIES	61,428	0.650	0.720	0.650	0.650
HITLER EAST FOR DEVELOPMENT & TRADE CO.	260	0.620	0.590	0.590	0.590
KARMA PRIVATE UNIVERSITY	9,758	1.700	1.810	1.750	1.750
ARAB FOOD & MEDICAL APPLIANCES	1,082	1.100	1.100	1.100	1.100
NATIONAL CERAMIC INDUSTRIES CO. LTD	87,097	2.230	2.230	2.080	2.080
NATIONAL TEXTILE & PLASTICS IND. CO.	9,911	1.520	1.520	1.520	1.520
JORDAN ROPE CABLE CO.	16,889	2.270	2.270	2.140	2.140
NATIONAL MULTIPLE INDUSTRIES	175,867	1.580	1.580	1.420	1.420
EL-EAT READY WEAR MANUFACTURING CO.	113,868	2.550	2.530	2.290	2.290
INTERNATIONAL TRADING & CEMENTS	120,592	2.900	1.900	1.740	1.740
UNION TRADING LTD.	13,482	2.180	2.290	2.120	2.120
UNION CHEMICAL & FERTILIZABLE OIL INDUSTRIES	22,430	3.280	3.200	3.200	3.200
GRAND TOTAL	705,437				

Prices tumble, turnover shrinks as nerves remain jittery at AFM

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Amman Financial Market (AFM) continued to take a strong beating last week despite indications that a move to tax capital gains in the bourse was likely to be put on hold.

The general share price index had slipped to 142.4 points when trading closed for the week on Wednesday compared with the week's opening of 145.4 points. The three-point drop reflected a 2.1 per cent decline in stock prices of 60 major companies listed in the market.

But brokers, noting that the drop also affected non-listed companies, said the actual decline was slightly higher.

Similarly turnover during the week dropped 31.1 per cent to 5.1 million dinars from the previous week's 7.4 million as many investors refrained from trading, awaiting definite signs of the fate of a reported government move to remove income tax exemptions granted to capital gains in the stock market.

"The damage has been already done," said a broker. "Investors have been scared off. Many of them have been trying to shed stocks at reduced profit margins, some-

times even at slight losses, so as not to reflect capital gains by the end of the year."

Of the stocks of 75 companies traded during the week, only five showed gains as business closed at the AFM. Sixty-three companies showed drops and seven remained stable during the week, the weekly AFM report showed.

Two million shares changed hands during the week under 4,104 contracts.

Prominent among the five that showed gains were real estate companies, reflecting investors' belief that possible taxes on capital gains could be balanced through higher stock prices of companies dealing in land and buildings — acquisitions that are not likely to lose in value, according to brokers.

Activities at the AFM had picked up in August after more than four months of stagnation. Prices and turnover had improved since

then until late August when Finance Minister Sami Gam-mah announced the proposal to remove tax exemptions on capital gains.

The announcement led to "panic in the market," said the broker, who cannot be identified under standing AFM guidelines. "Subsequent signals that the government may reconsider the move did not do much to soothe the fears as last week's figures indicate."

Industrial stocks accounted for JD 2.17 million, or 42.5 per cent, of last week's volume, followed commercial banks with JD 1.48 million, or 28.9 per cent, the services sector with JD 1.44 million, or 28.2 per cent, and insurance stock with JD 18,000, or 0.4 per cent, the weekly market report said.

The drop in prices was more pronounced in the industrial sector, whose index dropped 4.1 points or 3.1 per cent during the week, fol-

lowed by the services sector with a decline of 4.1 points or 2.9 per cent, commercial banks with 2.1 points or 1.3 per cent and insurance stock with 1.5 points or one per cent.

"Investors have been looking for definite signs that the government is seriously considering abandoning the moves to tax capital gains," said the broker. "No such signs were forthcoming last week and hence the continued dip."

According to the broker, "the trend is likely to continue for some time and perhaps a decline in prices of about two to four per cent before stability returns to the market at a point when investors believe enough is enough."

"Of course," added the broker, "things could pick up if the government makes a definite announcement that capital gains would continue to enjoy tax exemption."

Palestine Investment Bank to start operations in 2 months

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Palestine

Investment Bank (PIB), one of the first financial institutions to be approved and licensed by the Palestine National Authority (PNA) in autonomous Gaza and Jericho, has elected a board of directors and intends to start operations in the self-rule areas in two months, the chairman of the board said Friday.

Abdul Kader Al Qadi, who was elected chairman of the board in the first meeting of shareholders on Thursday, said the bank would focus on "medium-and long-term" credit facilities and investment in the autonomous areas while also functioning as a commercial bank.

The bank has been approved by the Palestine National Authority, he told

the Jordan Times, adding that the institution "will abide by the provisions in the economic agreement between Jordan and the PNA."

The bank will operate a public shareholding company with limited liability and registered with the company registrar, he said.

The PIB intends to open its first two branches in Gaza and Jericho in the next two months and also plans to expand its operations through opening more branches elsewhere in the West Bank, Mr. Qadi said.

"The PIB has the authority to expand its branch network in the future in all areas that will eventually fall under the jurisdiction of the PNA," Mr. Qadi said.

The nearly 100 shareholders of the bank are Jordanian, businessmen from the Gulf states and Palestinians in that order, Mr. Qadi said. In its first meeting Thursday, the general assembly of shareholders decided to raise the capital of the bank to \$20 million from \$15 million "as a result of oversubscription in the initial offering," he said.

Among the board of directors are Ali Suheimat (vice chairman), Hani Al Qadi (managing director), and representatives of investment houses in Saudi Arabia, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

Other directors include Mahmoud Abu Al Rubb, Abdul Halim Hassan Al Ifrangi, Antoine Yousef Sansour, Ghassan Shakas, and Mohammad Masrouji.

The PIB is the first local bank to be established under the Palestine National Authority since it took control of the Gaza Strip and Jericho in May, noted Mr. Qadi, chairman of the Arab Jordan Investment Bank in Amman.

"The main objectives behind the establishment of the PIB is to develop the financial markets in the PNA areas and to assist in its economic development," he said. "The bank will also assist in channelling funds from international donors to the Palestinian areas."

The Palestine Investment Bank is different from the Arab Palestine Investment Bank which is being set up with the involvement of the Arab Bank, the International Finance Corporation — an arm of the World Bank — and the German development agency, DED.

The Arab Palestine Investment Bank is described as a specialised institution that will focus on the needs of individuals and entities employing five to 10 people in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

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Players strike overshadows apparent Haiti invasion

NEW YORK (AP) — The Major League Baseball season is over. Not even an apparently imminent invasion of Haiti distracted America's attention from the eulogies that its lauded "World Series" won't be played for the first time since 1994.

From newspapers to the resident, it was an almost everybody's mind.

"Season ends, '95 in doubt" was the big headline splashed across the front of the national daily USA Today. Then came, in smaller print, Clinton in Haiti: "Time is a hand."

The Wall Street Journal's lead story on its front page was headlined: "Fat lady naps; how fear and loathing in baseball standoff wrecked season."

Even President Clinton, who was debating whether to send a military force to invade Haiti, commented on the situation.

"I don't see how we can avoid a serious examination of it in light of what has happened now to the American people," Clinton said about MLB's exemption from federal antitrust laws after the 28 Major League club owners voted Wednesday to cancel the remaining month of the season.

The news came as no surprise. Media predictions started at the beginning of the summer, and intensified when the MLB Players Association went out on strike Aug. 12.

And it's not as though strikes haven't ever interrupted the MLB season before.

This is the third time since 1972 a strike has resulted in the cancellation of games, but the first time it resulted in the post-season being wiped out.

This year's work stoppage is the eighth time since 1972 that the MLB club owners and the players have butted heads.

"I hope they don't play next year. I'm sick and tired of it. They're both wrong as far as I'm concerned," said Madison, Wis., Tavern owner Stuart Becker.

The U.S. Major League season, which was first played in 1876, runs from April to October, with a seven-game series between the American and national league champions in the "World Series" to determine the winner. The world series was first

played in 1903 and, except for 1904 when the manager of the NL champion Giants — John McGraw — simply didn't want to play the AL champs, it has been staged every year since, including through two world wars and the Great Depression of the 1930s. It's a boast even the English FA Cup final can't make.

But this year's season will be the first, due to club owners' and players' clash essentially over salaries. Owners want a change of the economic structure that has seen the average players' salary jump from just over \$34,000 in 1972 to nearly \$1.2 million this season. Players want the status quo, with an increase in the minimum salary from \$109,000 to about \$200,000. Many fans abandoned the

Major League season when the players struck last month. Some turned to the approximately 150 Minor League teams, who saw attendance soar after the strike started. Most of those Minor Leagues have finished their seasons and those still going only have a few days left.

Others have focused on the American pro and college football seasons, which started 2-3 weeks ago, and the National Hockey League (NHL) which opened training camps about 10 days ago. However, the NHL is facing its own potential labour problems.

Television ratings the first week of the NFL season were up significantly from last year.

The ESPN sports cable television channel has been

showing Minor League baseball in place of the Major League and last week even showed the England-United States soccer friendly from Wembley tape-delayed in prime time, usually reserved for baseball.

Because the club owners and players are so diametrically opposed to each other on the issues, the current labour strife may extend into next season.

"It's the strongest union in the nation. We're not going to break now," Florida Marlins pitcher Greg Colbrunn said.

The standoff has some baseball fans befuddled.

"We're sitting here watching paint dry," said Scott Saklad, manager of a souvenir shop across the street from Boston's Fenway Park.



Jennifer Capriati

Capriati plans comeback

CLEVELAND (AP) — Jennifer Capriati, who left the women's tour last year and was later arrested on drug charges, plans to return to professional tennis in early October.

The International Management Group, an agency representing Capriati, has said the 18-year-old has requested wild-card entries to the Barilla Indoors Tournament in Zurich, Switzerland, and the Porsche Tennis Grand Prix in Filderstadt, Germany.

"Obviously she's getting ready to play again. These are pretty big tournaments," said Linda Dozoretz, president of Linda Dozoretz Communications in Los Angeles, which represents Cleveland-based IMG. "Martina Navratilova is scheduled to play in them, so they are pretty important."

Dozoretz said she believed Capriati has been practicing for her comeback at her new home in Palm Desert, Calif. Capriati and her family moved there a few weeks ago from Coral Gables, Fla.

The Zurich tournament will be held Oct. 3-9 and the Filderstadt tournament Oct. 10-16.

"It's great news," tennis commentator Mary Carillo said from Naples, Fla. "That's sooner than I thought she'd be back."

Carillo could not say how long it would be before Capriati returns to her old form.

"I don't know because I have no idea what kind of shape she's in," she said.

Calls to Capriati's agent, Barbara Perry, were not returned. A telephone message was left at the home of her father, Stefano Capriati, in Rancho Mirage, Calif.

Capriati, who has career earnings of nearly \$1.5 million, stopped playing tennis last year after losing in the

first round of the U.S. Open.

She began playing professionally shortly before her 14th birthday, became the youngest semifinalist ever at Wimbledon and won the gold medal at the 1992 Olympics by beating Steffi Graf.

She has been a semifinalist at the U.S. Open, Wimbledon and the French Open, but has never won a Grand Slam event.

Capriati's success and subsequent problems underlined the risks that can await young players on the tour. Last week, the Women's Tennis Council announced a series of rule changes, among them restrictions on the number of tournaments a 14-year-old may enter. The WTC said it began looking into the reforms before Capriati's troubles came to light.

After leaving the tour, Capriati was arrested May 16 at a Coral Gables motel and charged with marijuana possession after a weekend allegedly spent partying with friends. Acquaintances claimed she used heroin and cracked cocaine during that weekend.

Following her arrest, Capriati spent 23 days in the Mount Sinai Medical Centre in Miami before being released from the substance abuse clinic June 10. Under a plea bargaining agreement, the arrest will be deleted from her record if she stays out of trouble until next June.

One of the more startling aspects of the arrest was the new picture it provided of Capriati. Her tennis whites were gone, exchanged for a grunge look that included black combat boots and a pierced nose and navel.

Those arrested with her at the motel included a runaway and a man with a history of drug arrests.

Julio Cesar to stay at Dortmund despite racism

ONN (Agencies) — Former Nazi libero Julio Cesar has decided to remain with Borussia Dortmund despite becoming the target of racist abuse in Germany. A senior club official said Friday.

Julio Cesar, signed from Juventus in the close season together with German international midfielder Andy Celler for a combined \$9 million, was barred from a Dortmund disco because of skin colour and verbally abused by the doorman.

"He is staying with us and we are not personally seeing any reason for action," the club official, asking not to be named, told Reuters.

He declined to comment on reports that the Brazilian, being racist in Germany, are at least 30 people have died in neo-Nazi violence since unification in 1990, had listed on a clause in his contract that would allow him leave if he became a victim.

"We never comment on content of contracts," he said.

Attempts by Julio Cesar's manager to explain to the club staff why the soccer player was failed to convince them to let him in.

The Dortmund official said

the disco owner had since telephoned the Brazilian and apologized.

Dortmund trainer Ottmar Hitzfeld told the sports news agency SID that remarks made to Julio Cesar were "exceptionally discriminatory and racist."

Hitzfeld had been hard pressed, the agency added, to convince Julio Cesar to join Dortmund from Juventus because of the Brazilian's fears of racism.

Julio Cesar had previously complained of apparent xenophobia, Hitzfeld said. When he recently parked his car outside his home with two wheels on the curb, neighbours immediately phoned the police.

Karl-Heinz Krumme of Dortmund city authorities said that discos in the city had a reputation for racist door policies and that they had been frequently asked to mend their ways.

The defender's contract includes a clause allowing Julio Cesar to immediately break the contract if he becomes the target of racism in Germany.

"This was pure racism. I've been all over the world and such a thing has never happened to me before," said

Julio Cesar, who played in France before going to Italy.

After Tuesday evening's incident at a Dortmund discotheque, club officials feared that Julio Cesar may use the clause and leave the club.

"It was an awful and shameful incident. This is discrimination at its worst, the most bitter racism," an angry Borussia Dortmund coach Ottmar Hitzfeld said Friday.

"I am concerned whether we can keep him in these circumstances. I can only hope that such things will not happen again and that Julio stays with us," Hitzfeld said.

City authorities in Dortmund promised to investigate the incident and threatened to close the discotheque.

About 200 members of a Borussia Dortmund fan club sent what they called an open "love letter" to Julio Cesar, apologising for the incident and appealing to the Brazilian star to stay in Dortmund.

The German Soccer Federation also reacted with anger.

"I hope that Dortmund can convince Julio Cesar that this was only an absolutely irresponsible act by an individual," said spokesman Wolfgang Niersbach.

Japan stands firm on visit by Taiwan official

TOKYO (R) — Japan said Friday it would allow Taiwan's vice-premier Hsu Li-Teh to attend the Asian Games in Hiroshima next month, despite strong objections from China.

Chief cabinet secretary Kozo Igarashi said Hsu would visit Japan as chairman of the Taipei 2002 Asian Games special committee and there would be no political motives to the trip or governmental contacts.

China, Asia's top sporting nation, had earlier threatened a boycott over an invitation extended to Taiwanese President Lee Teng-Hui.

The Olympic Council of Asia Monday withdrew its invitation to Lee, but Beijing is still unhappy about any senior Taiwan politicians attending.

"The Chinese government cannot accept the Japanese government decision to allow Hsu Li-Teh and other important political figures from Taiwan to visit Japan," foreign ministry spokesman Shen Qifang said in Beijing Thursday.

Beijing has regarded Taiwan as a renegade province since the end of the

Palestine debut at Hiroshima

HIROSHIMA, Japan (AFP) — A depleted Asian Games men's football tournament was reshuffled with a new draw on Friday which will see Palestine make their international debut.

The new draw was made necessary after Kazakhstan, Brunei, Mongolia, India and Indonesia withdrew. Palestine and Malaysia were accepted to make it a 19-nation contest. Group A: Iran, Yemen, Bahrain, Turkmenistan, China. Group B: Thailand, Malaysia, Hong Kong, Saudi Arabia, Uzbekistan. Group C: South Korea, Kuwait, Oman, Nepal, Palestine. Group D: Japan, Burma, United Arab Emirates, Qatar. The top two teams from each group advance to the quarterfinals.

Japanese joint communiqué we hope to bring the Asian Games to a fine finish together with China," Murayama told reporters.

Taiwan has slammed Beijing for mixing politics and sport.

A record 7,300 athletes and officials from 42 nations are due to take part in the event from Oct. 2-16, competing in 337 events in 34 sports.

China, Asian Games champion since 1986, is sending the largest contingent with 779 athletes and officials. Taiwan's delegation totals 397.

"Based on the (1972) Sino-

Japanese joint communiqué we hope to bring the Asian Games to a fine finish together with China," Murayama told reporters.

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"Based on the (1972) Sino-

China looking for Serie A soccer apprenticeship

JAKARTA (AFP) — China is aiming to get to the top in football by sending its players to the Italian league — the toughest in the world.

China's top young players are being lined up for a mass transfer to Italy, according to an Italian soccer club representative.

Enrico Ercolani, head of

international relations for Sampdoria who toured China in May, said he had negotiations during the tour and received a letter this week saying China was interested in sending 20 players to Italy's youth league.

The Chinese starlets are being lined up to go to the Genoa side who would look

after them.

Ercolani, who arranged a similar deal for the Indonesian youth team two years ago, said: "The Italian federation have given us permission to bring a second Asian country to Italy to compete in the youth league and we are considering a number of options."

INVITATION TO TENDER FOR THE SUPPLY OF EQUIPMENT AND FURNITURE TO THE NEW FACILITIES OF EDUCATION AT THE THREE UNIVERSITIES IN JORDAN

International Competitive Bidding (ICB)

The government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan has received a Loan of U.S. \$73.0 million from the International Bank of Reconstruction and Development- the World Bank- and intends to apply part of the proceeds of this loan to eligible payments for the supply of the goods and services covered by this Invitation.

The Respective Purchasers namely:

1. University of Jordan in Amman
2. Yarmouk University in Irbid
3. Mu'tah University in Mu'tah

hereby invite local and international suppliers of educational equipment in subject being taught in the faculty of education of each one of these three Universities to apply for bidding documents and to submit tenders (bids) for the equipment and furniture to be provided to the various laboratories, workshops and classrooms of the Faculties of Education about to be completed in the campus of each one of the respective Universities.

Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from, and inspect the Bidding Documents for each of the three Universities: (1) at the University of Jordan in Amman, (2) at the liaison office of Yarmouk University located at the Higher Council for Science and Technology building inside the campus of the Royal Scientific Society, (3) at the liaison office of Mu'tah University located at Samir Rifai St.-Jabal Amman between the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Saturday to Wednesday from September 14, 1994 to Oct. 5, 1994.

A complete set of the Bidding Documents may be obtained from the above referred offices on submission of a written application and upon payment of a non-refundable fee. All payments will be by a Bank draft or certified bank check in currency of the purchaser's choice or in cash made out in favour of the respective University. Price of purchasing the documents would be the equivalent of the Jordan Dinar as follows:

- For Delivery to personal callers JD 15,000 per Lot.
- For Delivery by local Mail to Local Bidders JD 25,000 per lot.
- For Delivery to Overseas Bidders by Courier Service JD 25,000 per Lot plus JD 50 for all Lots.

Bids will be priced and submitted separately for each individual Lot to each respective University. Contracts will be awarded for a Lot (by/Lot) basis to the lowest qualified bidders who would prove capable to carry out the requirements of the contracts to be signed. Bidders will be awarded more than one Contract of each.

Bidding date for the bid submission will be noon of Wednesday, Nov. 2, 1994. Bids shall have a validity of 90 days and will be accompanied issued by The University of Jordan, Yarmouk University and Mu'tah University by a security to the value of about 3% of the Bid Price and duration of 120 days.

New: Rado DiaStar 'Rondo'

The round beauty - from Rado

ROUND, without frills and of classically pure design - that's how the new creation from the house of Rado looks. The introduction of the DiaStar 'Rondo' means that Rado is launching another round watch - after the successful La Coupole collection - this time in the DiaStar range.

With its scratchproof,

brilliantly gleaming hard-metal case, its comfortably supple stainless-steel bracelet and its always beautiful, nearly diamond-hard sapphire crystal. Like all Rado watches the DiaStar 'Rondo' is also water-resistant to 30m (98ft), equipped with an automatic movement and, of course, Swiss made.



The Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature Opportunity for wildlife research in Dana Nature Reserve

Fixed term, challenging employment opportunity for junior researchers with an interest in Nature Conservation

To join an international team that will carry out field research on large mammals and birds in Dana Nature Reserve, Tafiia. Researchers will be based in the reserve for a period of 4 to 5 months, starting at the beginning of October 1994, and will work in close co-operation with researchers from U.K. and Italy.

Monthly salary and free transportation and accommodation to/from and within the reserve.

Deadline for application: September 22, 1994. Applications should be brought at RSCN Headquarters, Sweish, Amman.

Applicants should:

- Be less than 30 years old.
- Have at least a BSc degree in biological science or other relevant discipline. Field work experience a plus.
- Have a demonstrated interest in the Conservation of Nature.
- Have the ability to speak and write English.
- Show willingness to work under difficult conditions and within international counterparts.

Brazilian star Pele honoured

Brazilian soccer star Pele looks at the lifetime achievement award he received from the Sportsmen's Hall of Fame in Budapest Thursday. Pele will play in an exhibition match against a senior Hungarian team (AFP photo)



GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TAMMAM HUSSEIN
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TEST YOUR PLAY

Both vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH
♠ A J 9 4
♥ K Q 2
♦ 8 7 4
♣ A K 7

WEST EAST
♠ 6 ♠ 8 5
♥ J 10 9 8 5 ♥ A 7 4 3
♦ A Q 6 3 ♦ J 10 9 5
♣ 9 2 ♣ 10 8 3

SOUTH
♠ K Q 10 7 3 2
♥ 8
♦ K 2
♣ J 6 5 4

The bidding:
North East South West
1 NT Pass 4 ♠ Pass

Opening lead: Jack of ♠

Here's another opportunity to put your dummy-play technique on the line. Decide how you would play four spades after receiving the lead of the jack of hearts.

The auction is simple enough and certainly the contract cannot be faulted. Consider yourself lucky that you do not play transfer bids, because four spades by North would be defeated after the lead of the jack of diamonds. With you declaring from

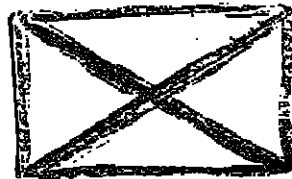
The South side, can you avoid that fate?

Suppose you cover the jack of hearts with the queen. East will take the ace, shift to the jack of diamonds and the defenders will complete their book in the red suits. You can discard a club on the king of hearts, but in the fullness of time you will have to concede a club trick for down one.

Your problem is to keep East off lead, so let's get back to the first trick and see what will transpire if you were to follow with a low heart from dummy!

Assume East does not rise with the ace. Best defense is for West to continue with a heart and you ruff out East's ace. After drawing trumps, discard a diamond on the king of hearts and you lose only one trick in each side suit—your fourth club can be ruffed on the table, if necessary.

It is no better for East to win the first trick with the ace of hearts and shift to a diamond. The defenders can take two diamond tricks, but that is all. When you regain the lead, draw trumps and then shift two clubs on the king and queen of hearts.



Croatia's Zvezdan Čiriac (right) stops Auxerre captain Corentin Martins (left) during their Thursday Cup Winner's Cup round match. Croatia Zagreb defeated Auxerre 3-1 (AFP photo)

EURO SOCCER ROUNDUP

PARIS (AFP) — Thursday's European Cup Winners and UEFA Cup first-round first leg results:

UEFA Cup:
Inter Milan, Italy 1 (Bergkamp — pen-75) Aston Villa, England 0.
SCT Olimpija Ljubljana, Slovenia 1 (Siljak 2) Eintracht Frankfurt, Germany 1 (Legat 84)

Cup Winners Cup:

Gloria Bistritza, Romania 2 (Raduta 51, Lungu 52) Real Zaragoza, Spain 1 (Esvaider 45)
Pirin Blagoevgrad, Bulgaria 0 Panathinaikos, Greece 2 (Niobles 70, Alexiadis 83)

CSKA Moscow, Russia 2 (Mamchour 50, Sergueev 73) Ferencváros, Hungary 1 (Cristianzen 58)
Croatia Zagreb, Croatia 3 (Jelicic 1, Soldo 40, Pamic 65) Auxerre, France 1 (Diomedé 20)
Branik Maribor, Slovenia 1 (Prosenik 23) Austria Vienna, Austria 1 (Bozgo 46)
Zalgiris Vilnius, Lithuania (Tereskinas 87) 1 Feyenoord Rotterdam, Netherlands 1 (Larsson 9)
Omonia Nicosia, Cyprus 1 (Malekias 72) Arsenal, England 3 (Merson 37, 30, Wright 50)
Brøndby, Denmark 3 (Jensen 19-pen, Hansen 56, Bjør 66) FK Tirana, Albania 0

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Tyrrell sign Yamaha deal

LONDON (R) — Yamaha have signed a new two-year deal to supply engines to the Tyrrell Formula One motor racing team, officials of the Japanese company said Friday. The agreement extends a partnership between the two that has already existed for two years. Tyrrell are currently sixth in the World Constructors' Championship with 13 points amassed by Briton Mark Blundell and fast-rising Japanese driver Ukyo Katayama.

Murdoch broadcaster wins Asian deal

HONG KONG (AFP) — Pan-Asian satellite broadcaster Star TV has beaten rival ESPN Asia to strike a four-year television deal with the Asian Basketball Confederation. The deal, worth an estimated \$1.5 million, will give the Rupert Murdoch-owned broadcaster exclusive satellite access to one of the fastest-growing sports in the region. "We are delighted to welcome Star TV into the family of ABC supporters," said ABC General Secretary Mauricio Martelino.

Muster dried out

BUCHAREST (AFP) — Thomas Muster, the fifth seed, withdrew from an ATP men's tennis tournament here Friday because of illness. The Austrian was taken to hospital

after suffering dehydration Thursday following his three-set win over Spain's Francisco Roig played in 35 degree Centigrade temperature. "Breathing is difficult and I'm very tired," he said. His quarterfinal opponent Renzo Furlan of Italy had a bye to the semi-finals. Top seed Goran Ivanisevic of Croatia is the only one of the five top-ranked players in the tournament.

Zarrabeitia hurt in car crash

BILBAO, Spain (R) — Rising Spanish cycling star Mikel Zarrabeitia was seriously injured in a motorway car crash between the Basque cities of Bilbao and San Sebastian on Friday, highway officials said. Zarrabeitia, second in this year's Tour of Spain and seen as a possible successor to Spain's four-time Tour de France winner Miguel Indurain, suffered suspected fractures of the shoulder, hip and ribs and concussion. Officials said Zarrabeitia's car apparently hit a roadside fence as he was driving towards San Sebastian and he was thrown out. Last February another of Spain's most promising cyclists, Antonio Martin, was killed when he collided with a van while on a training ride. Zarrabeitia, 24, had been expected to be Indurain's main back-up in his successful bid for a fourth Tour de France victory in July but missed the race because of illness.

Norman reels back the years

BARCELONA (AFP) — He may be on the wrong side of 35, but squash veteran Ross Norman is living proof that experience counts for more than young legs in the world's most gruelling sport.

Norman, who turns 36 in January, is still in the top 10 of the world rankings, where he has spent most of his 14-year career in the game.

But the New Zealander readily admits that his success is sometimes even a mystery to him.

The key, he reckons, is having the experience that comes with age. It has already stood him in good stead at the World Open here this week, before he suc-

cumbed in the second round to Australian Anthony Hill.

"I count on that every time, it's probably what pulled me through the first round," he said. "It's just the experience to keep hanging on and, even though there are big pressure points, not to be sucked into going for too many quick and cheap points."

I quite often go on court against a better player than me — he's fitter, he's faster and he hits more shots — but I end up beating him and coming off the court wondering how. And it's usually because he's hitting the wrong shot at the right time or the right shot at the wrong time.

"I've played through more generations than anyone here. No-one here has been playing when Geoff Hunt, (Qamar) Zaman and Mohibullah (Khan) were around."

Norman, whose biggest claim to fame is having ended Jahangir Khan's five-and-a-half year unbeaten run in the 1986 World Open final, pays tribute to the progress which squash has made since 1980.

"All sport has progressed; in athletics you can measure it in the times. In squash, I gauge it that when I first went pro, if you did some training, got yourself fit, you stood a chance of getting into the top 16. God, now, there are people who are training hard and can't make the top 50 in the world."

"Where fitness was an advantage before, now it's a pre-requisite. Unless you're an athlete who trains hard, you've got no chance. Before, if you had racket skills but you weren't quite that fit, you could hold your own. Now you can't."

"The game's become more aggressive and harder on your body. Without a doubt, the standard of 10 years ago is nowhere near as good as it is today."

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Are you an Arab Woman?
Are you under 35 years old?
Are you an artist/graphic designer?
If yes, you should participate in

ESCWA'S POSTER COMPETITION

The Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) is sponsoring a poster competition for the Arab Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Fourth World Conference on Women. The winning poster will be adopted as the official poster for the meeting, while other posters will be exhibited at the meeting, which takes place in Amman, between 6 and 10 November.

Theme: Peace for the Advancement of Arab Women.

Size: 60cm X 40cm

For more information, call ESCWA Information Office: Tel.: 694351; Fax: 694981/2

Don't delay...the deadline for submission is 30 Sept.



7-622298

One of the participants waits for the start signal at the Royal Automobile Club of Jordan (Photo by Rana Hussein)

24 drivers take part in RACJ rallytour

By Rana Hussein

Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The 24 car drivers who participated in the third round of the Zanussi Classic Rallytour Friday will have to wait until 7.00 p.m. today to know who the winner is and to find out if any of the competitors was able to break Mo'taz Masri and Mazen Qoutob's time of 44 seconds registered by the duo during the first rally at the beginning of this year.

This competition does not require speed as much as precise calculations of distance and time.

The driver of each car assisted by a co-pilot and one or two assistants breezed through the Kingdom's asphalt public roads, cruising on speeds ranging from 47-55 kilometres per hour and crossing 280 kilometres.

The first vehicles left the Jordan Automobile Club of Jordan (RACJ) at 9.30 a.m., followed by the 23 cars with a one-minute interval between each vehicle. After completing the morning session the cars regrouped at the RACJ in preparation for the evening session which started at 2.00 p.m. and ended at 6.30 p.m.

"What is special about this rally is that it needs precise calculations by the driver's assistant and for the driver to obey speed limits required at

every stage," Walid Muhiar, the rally director at the RACJ, told the Jordan Times.

The route that the drivers are supposed to take is secret; and drivers receive a map of the route just one minute before they take off to their destination, Mr. Muhiar said.

According to Mr. Muhiar, the final results will be announced today at the RACJ. All participants will receive points which will be added to their total until the fourth and final Zanussi rally will take place at the beginning of December. It will determine the champion of the eight national rallies held in the Kingdom since the

beginning of the year. The winner of the first place will get 16 points; whereas the second and third will get 13.5 points and 11 respectively.

Currently, Bashar Bustam is leading the Kingdom's drivers with 140 points followed by Ahmad Dawoud with 108.5 and Fari Bustam with 81.5 points.

Bustam did not participate in Friday's event. The reasons were not known. Rally observers speculate that this might affect his over all total points and might drop him back behind Dawoud, who competed in the event along with Fari Bustam.

Omega times 1/100 of second

LAUSANNE, Wednesday July 6 at 8:20 p.m.: Omega times the 1/100 of a second which makes the American Leroy Burrell the new 100-metre world record holder!

A history-making 100-metre event at yesterday's Athletics 94 athletic meet in Lausanne, Switzerland, at 20:20 hours, the stadium crowd held its breath as the Omega chronograph recorded 9.85 seconds! A world record! By a mere hundredth of a second, the American athlete Leroy Burrell beat the current

record-holder and fellow Santa Monica Track Club athlete, Carl Lewis.

1968-1994: A tenth of a second was gained over a period of 26 years, a distance of just one centimetre. Omega continued to make steady progress in the development of timing technology. Yesterday in Lausanne, the Photofinish electronic video scanner documented Burrell's performance run under favourable winds of only 1.2 metres per second. A second authorised limit = 2 metres per second.

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Headmaster (male or female)

to meet the following conditions:-

- 1.a- Holder of a Master's degree in Education or any teaching profession from a reputable University.
- b- Holder of a Bachelor's degree in any teaching profession in addition to a diploma in education administration or orientation, provided the applicant has had, at least, five years experience in school administration following his diploma.
2. At least ten years teaching experience.
3. Under 48 years of age.
4. Preferably with teaching experience in co-educational schools.
5. In good health.
6. Good command of the English language, written and spoken.
7. Attendance at seminars, conferences and educational gatherings, or being the author of publications in any educational field is an asset.
8. Is able to follow future educational trends in line with modern scientific development.
9. Good reputation and conduct.
10. Please state the minimum salary required.

If eligible please send your CV to the following address, together with a recent photograph.

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Amman 11185, Jordan

T O D A Y	Cinema PHILADELPHIA	Tel.: 634144	Cinema PLAZA	Tel.: 699238	Cinema CONCORD	Tel.: 677420	AMMOUN Cinema and Theatre	Tel.: 618274 - 618275	Nabil Al Mashini Theatre	Tel.: 675571	Nabil & Hisham's	Tel.: 625125
	CARLITO'S WAY Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:45 Thursday, Friday & Sunday for children The Care Bears at 11:00 a.m.		the best of comedies: Strawberry War (Arabic) Starring: Yusra, Mahmoud Hamida and Sahar Rami Shows at: 12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30		CONCORD "1" THE PELICAN BRIEF Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 8:15, 10:30 CONCORD "2" Bruce Willis — in Striking Distance Shows: 3:30, 5:30 Presents the play: MA HUA AL-SABAH YA ELEWA (It is the truth Elewa) Acting by: Rabbie Shihab, Amer Khalil, Norman Abdel Karim, Youssef Youssef and Shaker Jabbar. Curtains open at 8:30 p.m.		Presents the political comedy: Legal Evening Entertainment Starring: Abeer Issa, Daoud Jalal, Hassan Al Shaer and Mahmoud Abu Gharib. For reservation call tel.: 618274 - 618275		Today & Everyday Abu Awwad in social comedy "PUNCTURED RAC"		Presents: The political satire: Al Salam Ya Salam Daily at 8:30 p.m. Tuesday is the theatre's holiday	

Self-rule police get substantial aid